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THE ERA

BILLY CARYLL

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CLAUDE GARDNER.

The above photograph is of Claude Gardner, the comedian who is making such rapid strides to the front line of Variety humorists. This is undoubtedly due to his having a style and method of amusing which is entirely his own, unorthodox but nevertheless effective; the "PEOPLE" of May the 15th says: "I give a sketch of Claude Gardner taken at the Hackney Empire. It is evident that Claude has come to stay. He did wonders, and kept the audience in roars of laughter, he at times reminded me of Dan Leno and Dan Crawley at their best, although he has a distinct style of his own. I should say there is a fine career in front of this young and brilliant comedian." George Barclay represents him and it is needless to add he is booked by all the principal Tours for years. This week Claude is at the Empire, Wood Green.

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is hereby convened by the Executive Committee, to be held in the Board Room, 18, Charing Cross-road, W.C., at 12 (noon), on
JUNE 15, 1921.
AGENDA.
To consider a resolution that Rule 33, which now reads as follows:—"That the amount of the annual subscription be fixed at 7s. 6d. for adults and 5s. for children under the age of twelve, 2s. 6d. of which shall be donated to the V.A. Benevolent Fund, provided that the financial position of the Association permits, &c.," be altered to read as follows:—"That the amount of the annual subscription be fixed at 10s. for adults, and 7s. 6d. for children under the age of twelve, 2s. 6d. of which shall be donated to the V.A. Benevolent Fund," and then to delete the words "provided that the financial position of the Association permits."
By Order of the Executive Committee.
C. DOUGLAS STUART, Secretary.

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Aug. 22 (North), Oct. 24 (Midland).
Jack Goodson's Musical Cos.
"OH, JULIE!" from Shaftesbury Theatre, Aug. 1, 8, Oct. 10, Nov. 7, 14.
"HULLO, AMERICA!" from Palace Theatre, June 13, Aug. 8, 15, Sept. 12, 26, Oct. 3, 10, Nov. 21.
"THE GIRL FOR THE BOY," from Duke of York's Theatre, June 20, Aug. 15, 22, 29, Oct. 31, Nov. 14.
Apply, THE FREDK. MOUILLOT OFFICES, 7 and 8, Leicester-place, W.C. 2.

WANTED, Theatres or Music Halls, "FAIR AND WARMER," July 14 (3 nights), to follow Harrogate, July 25, to precede Gaiety, Douglas, Aug. 29, and Dec. 26.

"THE CINDERELLA MAN," July 25, Aug. 1 (3 nights), to precede Bridlington, Aug. 15, and Dec. 25.

"THE PURPLE LADY," Aug. 8 (to follow P.O.W., Birmingham).

"THE GIRL FROM CIRO'S," May 30 and June 6, to follow Hull.

W. FOSTER HORSFIELD, Offices, 21 and 22, 26, Charing Cross-road, W.C. 2. Telephone: Gerrard 7167.

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"PASSIONS," "CARMEN," "SAPHO," &c.
WANTED (owing to strike), May 30, between Repton and Bradford. Company of 14 Artists. Two loads Scenery and Effects.
Wire for Monday next.
Printing ready.
ABBOTT, The Rink, Repton.

"EASTERN NIGHTS" Revue.
WANTED, June 6 and 13
Can be seen Elephant and Castle this week.
Apply,
RUBY KIMBERLEY, with show, or
MRS. KIMBERLEY,
Grand Theatre, Brighton.

Messrs. Thwaites present
"JUSTICE FOR THE WIFE."
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Quite a Success.
Bookings include:
Coventry, Swindon, Doncaster, Lancaster, Stockton, Gravesend, West Bromwich, and Carlisle.
WANTED, Monday next, through misunderstanding. Wire, THWAITES, Grand Theatre, Gravesend.

WANTED, Theatres, for Repertory, June 6, 27, July 18, 25, Aug. 29. W. V. GARROD, 94, Kennington Park-rd., London, S.E. 11.

LODGE-PERCY AND HENRIETTA SCHRIER'S COMPANY.
WANTED, next week and June 6, follow Prince's, Bradford.
"SHAME," "THE GIRL WHO WENT STRAIGHT."
Refer Alexandra, Birmingham, re the drawing powers of these two plays.
Printing ready. Everything travelled.
WIRE. WIRE. WIRE,
LODGE-PERCY and SCHRIER, 101, Horton-lane, Bradford.

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De Courville's production, with Easten Pickering.
WANTED, Aug. 22, Sept. 5, on. HALDANE CRICHTON, Theatre Royal, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Monday next,
"SHIP AHOY" Revue.
Printing ready.
Wire,
GALLIMORE,
Alexandra Theatre, Dovercourt.
House address, 9, Cleve-road.

E. C. HOWITT and His Company in First-class Repertoire.
WANTED, May 30.
E. C. HOWITT, King's, Alnwick.
Wire for Monday next.

For other Theatres Wanted see Displayed Wanted Section.

NOTE.—For special "Theatres Wanted" announcements of members of the Association of Touring Managers see page 9.

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First Three Lines ..... 1s. 6d.
Per Line After ..... 9d.
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WANTED, Rough, Strong Character Actor, 1 week; rehearse Brighton, Thursday. GERALD ALEXANDER, Palace Pier, Brighton.

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WANTED, Clever Boy Actor, must be very small; unbroken voice; over 14 preferred, over 12 essential. Also Clever very small Girl, over 14 and one small 12. Good engagement; West-End management. Write for immediate appointment, giving age, full particulars, R. C., Box 1170, Willings, 125, Strand, W.C. 2.

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Reply, immediately, to "THOMAS," 32, Crowhurst-road, Brixton, S.W. (Letters only.)

WANTED, immediately, an Actor for a Side Show; not over 50; one able to interest an audience. Photos., refs., lowest terms, to include Sundays, WEBBER, The Kursaal, Southend-on-Sea.

ARTISTS' WANTS.
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WANTED, immediately, STANLEY KEPPEL (The Keppels), Baritone; C.P. last four seasons; Rep.; suit King or Peasant. Terms, present market value. C/o Wobble, T.R., Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, Engt., by Young Lady, in London Chorus; good soprano voice and appearance. Coms., V. DESMOND, 161, Seven Sisters-road, Holloway, N. 7.

WANTED Known, 2 refined and clever little Girls; would sing and dance for Charity Fêtes, Concerts, &c. Box 737, "The Era."

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Per Line After ..... 6d.
Displayed Lines, each ..... 9d.

WANTED, Monday next, also June 6, 13, MAISIE COYNE, Comedienne. Wire, 11, Vicarage-place, Margate.

WANTED, May 30 and June 6, by TOM GOODE, Novel Tyrolean Comedian. No disappointment. Travel by road. Empire, Dewsbury.

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WANTED, from Monday next, GUS VAN BIENE in "A Restaurant Episode"; 20 mi scream. Music Halls or high-class cinem
Address,
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World's Famous Balancer and Tumbl
WANTED, Monday, also June 6 and
It Pays to Get a Good Act, so wire quick,
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Alhambra, Glasgow.
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Comedy Football Champions, Cycling Comedians.
WANTED, Monday next, May Many thanks for offers and contra Vac. also June 6, 13, 27.
Wire, Pringle's Pal., Edinburgh.

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SUMMER CIRCUS SEASON,
JULY TO SEPTEMBER.
WANTED, Riders with own hors
Must be capable of plenty of change
Also Animal Acts and Novelties of Every Description.
Open July 4.
Full particulars and lowest terms, f letter, to H. MILNE, General Manager, Hippodrome, Gt. Yarmouth.
NOTE.—If successful, Yarmouth mi possibly fix Glasgow for winter.
WANTED, Pony Act and Jockey A Lady or Gentleman Rider for J 6 and 13, South; terms must be reasona Reply, JOE PETERMAN, 3, Leicester W.C.

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WANTED Known, ROLLO, High R Act, at liberty for fetes and ga circus, &c. An ideal gala act. Perm. a 98, Peel-street, Rochdale.

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WANTED, a Violin-Conductor, a 'Cello. Apply for full particulars MAY'S, High-street, Aldershot.

WANTED, shortly, thoroughly exp enced Conductor (baton); accustom to high-class Varieties, for the Midlan Full particulars, copies of referenc lowest terms, Box 743, "The Era."

WANTED, Violin Repet., used Tavan, &c.; commence Mond May 30; no Sundays. Write, stating ter &c., GEM PICTURE THEATRE, D ford.

WANTED, to open June 6, experienc Violin-Leader; varieties; So Yorkshire; A.M.U. £4 5s.; permanency right man; no seat warmers. Write, w copies of references, Box 755, "The Er

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WANTED, immediately, for Harrog Cafés, 2 good Violiniste-Leade about 24 hours weekly, including Sunda MISS HOLLINS, 84, King's-road, Har gate.

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WANTED, excellent Solo Cornet, open Monday week, June 6; m be absolutely tip-top, otherwise no go salary, £3 15s. Apply, letters only, PA J. CLIFFORD, South London Palace, L don-road, S.E.

WANTED, Solo Cornet; must be fi class or useless. Apply, ARTH W. OWEN, Mus. Dir., Angel P. Thea Islington, N.

WANTED, for Fossett's Circus, Cl net, Euphonium; Tenting Sea ANGEL, 137, Hainault-avenue, Westc Essex.

WANTED, Musicians, at First-cl Variety Halls.
Birmingham Empire: Trombone.
Newport Empire: Viola.
Applicants must be experienced thoroughly competent. Write, with particulars of experience, copies references, &c., to the MUSICAL DIR TOR at the above-mentioned hall.

WANTED, 'Cellist, for summer sea South Coast theatre; open May 6 evenings, 2 mats.; salary £4 4s. D. Bass, to commence July 1. W stating age, &c., to M. D., 62, Spr road, Brockley, S.E. 4.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, first-class 'Cellist, permanent, twice daily, once Sunday, hotel, South Coast. Also First Violin, theatre, once nightly and matinée, season. Apply, terms, age, refs., &c., JOHN H. RUSSELL, Grand Pier, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, 'Cello Player, experienced in first-class variety. Apply, with references and terms, to E. WINTER, Manager, Empire, South Shields.

WANTED, good 'Cellist, gent., young, experienced, for Picturehouse, Hoylake, Cheshire; evenings, 3½ hours; salary £4; high-class programmes. Apply, F. C. HOLLIDAY, 9, Leominster-road, Wallasey.

WANTED, first-class Orch. and Solo 'Cellist, Cinema, Reading; open June 6; 3-6, 6.30-10.15, with ½ hr. break; no Sundays; terms £6. Apply, MUS. DIR., 13, Denmark-rd., Reading.

WANTED, first-class 'Cellist, for cinema. Letters only, 48, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

WANTED, Young Lady Pianist. Good vamper. Sing. Age 20. 22s. per week. Live in. LORD NELSON, Boston, Lincolnshire.

WANTED, first-class Reed Organist (lady) for Shepherd's Bush or Lewisham. Audition, Shepherd's Bush Palladium, 11 till 1, Thursday.

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WANTED, to open Monday, May 23, first-class Orchestral Pianist; must be good sight reader, conversant with Tavan, Mounton, Alder, &c.; 5 hours daily, no Sunday work. State salary required. Send references. Apply, ROYAL CINEMA DE LUXE, Ashford, Kent.

WANTED, for S.W. seaside resort, a brilliant Orchestral Pianist; must be first-class soloist. Also Repet. and Double Bass (gents. only); season July till September. Apply, with references, LEWIS JONES, 38, Bolingbroke-road, W.14.

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WANTED, first-class Pianist, Pictures, evenings and 4 matinées. State age, wage, and qualifications, to M. D., 3, Peel-avenue, Rusholme, Manchester.

WANTED, experienced Relief Pianist (gent. pref.), to start June 2; must extemporise. Apply, letters, to M. SAX, 54, Cambridge-street, Victoria, S.W. 1.

WANTED, at once, Smart Pianist. Apply to ODETT'S PICTURE PALACE, Finchley-road, London, N.W.

WANTED, strong Orchestral Pianist, evenings, 1 matinée; open May 30; thoroughly experienced Tavan. Particulars, BIJOU, Herne Bay.

WANTED, good Stock Pianist; must be well up in stock work, and have good library of music; open Monday; brevity essential. Terms, references, &c., first letter. CAPT. BAINBRIDGE, Marina Theatre, South Shields.

WANTED, First-class Orchestral Pianist, to deputise one day weekly. For audition apply Wednesday, 2 o'clock, to S. STEVENS, M. D., Victoria Cinema, New North-road, Islington.

WANTED, to open June 6, smart Pianist; thoroughly experienced pictures; A.M.U.; permanency to right man; no seat warmers. Write, with copies of references, Box 766, "The Era."

WANTED, exp. Orchestral Pianist for London cinema; £3 10s. for six days; must be exp. in Tavans, &c., or useless. Box 745, "The Era."

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NEW YORK DRAMATIC NEWS
14 72-8, BROADWAY, NEW YORK CITY, U.S.A.

ALARMIST PRESS REPORTS.

Amid the general depression there is at least one suburban theatre which is doing satisfactory business. It is the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, where crowded houses have ruled throughout the visit of the Carl Rosa Opera Company.

In reply to the alarmist articles in the "Daily Mail," Mr. Mulholland has addressed an open letter to the editor traversing the statement which that journal has published from time to time.

"In the course of a leader a month or so ago," says Mr. Mulholland to the "Daily Mail," "you told your billion readers of the 'London Without Opera' this season—meaning at Covent Garden, in your own parish. I wrote informing you of the present Carl Rosa season, but having published the fable, you suppressed the fact. I did not, therefore, invite your musical critic to the first night nor since, and as far as the London which wears 'Daily Mail' blinkers knows, London is still 'without Opera.'" Yet London discovered its Opera, and over 20,0000 of the musical public crowded the theatre during the last fortnight at the height (or depth) of the "Slump" and the "Collapse." And there is the delightful "Beggar's Opera" crowding the Lyric, Hammersmith.

Your contributor favours the ferocious tax—has he ever paid it? He says people prefer it to increased income tax. Clearly he is thinking of the 16s. stall plutocrat who goes to the theatre to help digest a heavy dinner, and not of the millions of people throughout the country (the majority not subject to income tax) who have to squeeze in order to pay a small sum for necessary entertainment; nor does he seem to be aware that upon these the incidence of this "war" imposition is much heavier than upon the 16s. stall lounger.

You say, "People think the train service even less serviceable than it really is." Quite true: and who made them think so? A section of the press which yelled, "Bogey!" You megaphoned it from your housetop. I have had to issue a timetable contradicting the "Alarmist statements in a section of the press." And so your Jeremiad may be riddled.

Mr. Mulholland has had his letter printed and circulated to the public. On the back of the leaflet he gives a timetable which shows that travel difficulties are practically non-existent so far as the King's Theatre is concerned. The usual trains from Hammersmith to Barking, Ealing, Wimbledon, and other suburbs run up to past midnight, and Tubes and trams also continue their usual service.

ACTOR IN THE PULPIT.

Mr. Charles Doran, who is varying his performances of Shakespeare on tour with lectures to schools, institutions, and even church congregations, preached to the largest gathering ever assembled at the St. James's Church, Southampton, on Sunday.

In the course of an eloquent address Mr. Doran said the most satisfactory and commendable harmony existed now between Church and stage, because the Church recognised the potency of the theatre for good and for evil. When he said evil, he meant that the Church realised the importance of the stage being clean, the importance of actors and actresses trying to live up to the ideal which they themselves ofttimes portrayed.

Homer, Dante, Milton, and others had done their best, and left their impress all through time, but these, great as they were, paled before the magnificence, the Titanic majesty, and humanity of William Shakespeare, of Stratford-on-Avon. Voltaire called Shakespeare a clever barbarian, unquestionably because of his technique. Voltaire wrote in the atmosphere of gaudy gas-lit rooms, and an altogether vitiated, warm atmosphere, but Shakespeare wrote in the spirit and essence of the sun, of the moon, and stars and fresh air. He wrote as of mountain heights and sylvan glade, as of men in indignation against wrong, and he wrote with the simplicity and sweetness of a child. His limits to teach were universal and his compass immortal.

Mr. Doran finally commended the character of Prospero, in "The Tempest," the super-man, who eliminated chaos and hate and brought about order and love. He found a husband for his daughter in the son of his ancient enemy. He brought Caliban to a sense of order and peace from ignorance and an inarticulate state. It was the spirit of Prospero which was going to settle the coal strike, that was going to make the settlement permanent; that was going to save us as a nation. He urged them to let Prospero's broad-mindedness, kindliness, and mentality help them. If they view life as Prospero did when the immediate difficulties and conflicts had passed; when the smoke of battle had rolled away they would descry the smiling land — and the peans of the redeemed would ascend to the throne.

Half of the collection is to be devoted to a theatrical charity selected by Mr. Doran.

DELPHIC DRAMATIC SOCIETY.

The members of this Society gave a performance of Mr. St. John Hankin's four-act comedy, "The Cassilis Engagement," at Cripplegate Theatre. It was soon made evident that an excellent choice had been made so far as the play was concerned, the marked contrasts of character presented in it according the amateurs opportunities of which they were not slow to avail themselves. The character that made the most direct appeal to the audience was that of the amusing vulgarian, Mr. Borridge, a part that was excellently played by Miss Lily Morris, who missed not a single point in her clever portrayal. Miss Dora Landau deserves every credit for the admirable way in which she handled the far more difficult rôle of Mrs. Cassilis, whose scheme for the disillusionment of her son is so successfully carried out. The young man, Geoffrey by name, had a capital representative in Mr. Leona Courtney, who very effectively depicted the awkward position of the lover on discovering the mistake he has made in his choice. Miss Tina Block was praiseworthy as Ethel Borridge, who so quickly tires of the simple life. That elderly aristocratic, the Countess of Remenham, was well embodied by Miss Marie Defronde, and Miss Jennifer Wolfe was a natural and pleasing Lady Mabel Venning. Miss Sheila Holm had a part that suited her as Lady Marmont, while Mr. Charles Greene has to be credited with a decided hit for his admirable rendering of Major Warrington. The little character sketches were the Rec and the Mrs. Harries of Miss Daisy All

AMUSEMENTS IN SHANGHAI.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

SHANGHAI, March 14.—LYCEUM.—The hardy annual of the A.D.C. has run its usual successful season, and although the lyrics were not quite up to the big things we expect from our good friend Graham Barrows, the fine settings and music made up the balance. Mrs. Chris. Wingrove made a perfect Aladdin, and carried the brunt of the play and story with all her usual charm and grace. Miss Berry, Mr. Blanchard, Mr. Morrison, Mr. Dumbarton, Mr. R. W. Wingrove, Mr. Reginald Kay, Mrs. Isenman, Mr. M. D. Silas, Mr. Donne, all contributed to the success, while a word of praise is due to the charming party of dancers so ably trained by Mrs. Wingrove. As usual, the chorus was perfect, having had a thorough drilling by Jack Raynes, the musical director. Mr. Graham Barrow personally produced the show. The A.D.C. donated during 1914-1918 the sum of 59,000 dollars to various war charities.

The Warwick Comedy Company have visited us after their wonderfully successful tour in India, and had a fine reception here. Of the repertoire, the favourite pieces seem to have been "Uncle Ned," "Eliza Comes to Stay," "The Case of Lady Camber," "Brown Sugar," and the mystery play, "The Last Act," by N. and J. Thorpe-Mayne, who take such a leading part in the success of the company. Mr. Edgar Warwick had a splendid reception in "Uncle Ned," and it was a change to see him after the gay old times with his court cards. But he had another rôle this time, and we were all glad to see him d oso well in it. Mr. N. Thorpe-Mayne in all the plays must be given pride of place, and we shall surely welcome a return here, provided he brings Mrs. Mayne, who acts so delightfully opposite him in such a number of the plays. Mr. Tom Fenwick and Mr. Dudley Howarth are two members who gave us enjoyable times, but specially one must mention them in "The Law Divine" as Bill and Ted. Other members of the company are Miss Muriel Aked, Miss Beatrix Wynn, Miss Radford, Miss Flowerdew, Miss Clark, and Miss Thornton

THE EVERYMAN.

"MAN AND SUPERMAN."

There is no doubt of the popularity of the Shaw plays at the Everyman Theatre. The place is always crowded with enthusiastic people, and there were many rounds of applause on Monday night when the curtain fell at the close of "Man and Superman." Mr. Bernard Shaw, who was in the house, appeared to enjoy the play as much as anyone, although he could not be induced to make a speech at the end, except to say that "in two minutes the author would not be in the house." The play was well produced by Miss Craig, and on the whole very well acted. As is apparently inevitable in a repertory system with a small company, there were some rough edges, and one or two hesitances, but for real hard work commend to us the Everyman Company! Mr. Nicholas Hannen, for instance, must be perpetually learning lines. John Tanner is one of the longest parts in any modern play, and surprise must have been felt at Mr. Hannen's close acquaintance with them. He gave an exceedingly interesting performance of the most provocative of all the Shavian characters. He missed some of the richness of the speeches by too rapid delivery, but both he and Miss Muriel Pratt, who made a splendid Ann Whitefield, were altogether satisfactory in her remarkably fine scene at the end of the play.

Straker was most amusingly handled by Mr. Brember Wills, and Miss Hazel Jones made a great impression as the very business-like young woman, Violet Robinson. The part of the idealistic young American, Hector Malone, jun., was perfectly taken by Mr. Felix Aylmer, and that youpg man's father—a delightful creation—was magnificently played by Mr. Joseph Dodd, the latest addition to the Everyman Company, and a recruit upon which they are to be congratulated. Octavius Robinsaon is an unthankful part, and Mr. William Armstrong is to be congratulated upon doing so well as the tearful young poet. Mr. Douglas Jefferies made one of the finest studies of Mr. Roebuck Ramsden we have ever seen. Other parts were adequately characterised by Miss Margaret Carter (as Mrs. Whitefield), Miss Edith Harley (as Miss Ramsden), and Miss Mimosa Valentine.

PROVINCIAL CENTRES.

BATH.

THEATRE ROYAL. — L. & M.; Mr. Arthur Carlton, J.P.; E. M., Mr. Shelford Walsh; Mus. D., Mr. C. W. Hodges.—"Oh, Susie!" presented by Jack Goodson's company, is paying a first visit to Bath this week.

PALACE.—D., Mr. W. S. Pearce.—For the spring race week Mr. Pearce has booked John Anderson's successful production, "Oh, Harry!" The chief funmaker is Barney Murphy, and he is well supported by a capable company.

Boors, The Chemists, 21-22, Union-street; 56, Southgate-street.

BELFAST.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—D. of Entertainment, Mr. D. J. Clarke; R. M., Mr. George Dobler; Mus. D., Mr. W. L. Richards.—The top of the bill here is occupied by Mr. Felix Alder and Miss Frances Doss in "Something Different." The Fuji family, Japanese entertainers; the Four Foleys, in their novel coffee stall Embankment scena; Mr. Jack Resket and Betty, conversational comedy gymnasts; Miss Clo D'Arte, an accomplished comedian; Dave Bryant, Hebrew comedian; and Miss Ella Mars, comedienne, are also billed.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—G. M., Mr. W. Gibson Bradley.—Vaudeville here, by The Roxbys, smart comedy duo; and Flint and Flint, in eccentric comedy act.

BOURNEMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Messrs. David Allen and Sons; Sole L., Mme. Gertrude Comillot; R. M., Mr. Hubert Dunbar; Mus. D., Mr. Tom Brown.—Herbert Jay and Anthony Ellis present Miss Muriel Martin Harvey in "Marriage By Instalments."

BOSCOMBE HIPPODROME.—P., The South of England Hippodrome, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Charles Gulliver; R. M., Mr. Chas. H. Johnston; Mus. D., Mr. G. H. Atkinson.—This week's attraction is the comedy, "Three Wise Fools," presented by Taylor Platt and Edmund Gwenn.

Boors, The Chemists, 108, Commercial-rd.; 76-78, Old Christchurch-rd.; 60, Charminster-rd.; 302, Holdenhurst-rd.

BIRMINGHAM.

THE TRE ROYAL.—L., Theatre Royal Birmingham), Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Philip Rodway; A. M., Mr. E. Greaves; Mus. D., Mr. H. Rushworth. — "The Garden of Allah."

PRINCE OF WALES. — P., Prince of Wales' Theatre (Birmingham), Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Philip Rodway; A. M., Mr. G. D. Bradbury; Mus. D., Mr. H. Rushworth.—That entertaining comedy, "The Young Person in Pink," presented by Messrs. Murray King and Clark.

ALEXANDRA.—P. & L., Mr. Leon Salberg; A. M., Mr. W. T. Guest; Mus. D., Mr. David Cochrane.—Miss Ruby Lee pays another welcome visit here in "Her Unknown Father," and acts with much success in the attractive part of Sarah. Mr. Eric Paul May figures in the play also, and gives a capital study.

REPERTORY.—P., Mr. Barry V. Jackson; M., Mr. J. Drinkwater; B. M., Mr. Bache Matthews; Mus. D., Mr. Harold Mills.—Rudolph Besier's "Don," produced here last November, is revived for a fortnight's run. Mr. Frank Moore, Mr. Oliver Johnston, and Miss Dorothy Taylor are again seen in the principal parts.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; L., Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley; A. M., Mr. John Croudace; Mus. D., Mr. Geo. Redding.—Mr. Andie Caine presents the farcical revue, "Stop It Off," and a very jolly thing it is as given by Mr. Bobbie Graham as the Mother and Little Mack as the Lad. Specialities are contributed by Miss Jean Robertson (soprano), Mr. Harry Warde (baritone), Miss Flo Mack, and Miss Olive Aubrey as comedienne and soubrette, and the Munatti Whirlwind Dancers.

GRAND.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. R. H. Gillespie; M., Mr. H. J. Crane; Mus. D., Mr. Gilbert Smith.—A great attraction is Marie Novello, with Gwen Teagle and Gwyn St. Elwyn, in a musical scena. Then Percy Athos, in his American performance of acrobatic dancing and trick skating, assisted by Gertrude Jackson and Edythe Le Roy, proves quite wonderful. Hobart and Hobbs, Lolé and Her, and Vine and Russell add to the agreeableness of the fare in no small degree. Dick Henderson, in comedy and song; and Osborne and Perryer, in their rollicking "Peep at the Show," also give capital turns.

EMPIRE. — P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Henry Raymond; A. M., Mr. Philip Giles; Mus. D., Mr. J. Clegg.—Max Darewski makes a welcome return visit, and charms the audience by his talented performance. The Harmony Four add further to the high-class musical side of the programme. The Five Nuts provide an entertaining turn, their "Fun in the Schoolroom" being well received; while Arthur Pond, in comedy; Archie Hill, the vocalist; and Jan Martell as eccentric comedian, help to make up a capital programme.

Boors, The Chemists, 52, New-street; 275, Coventry-road; 167, Broad-street; 276, Soho-road; 100-101, Smallbrook-street; 266-268, Gooch-street; 89, Villa-road; 163-165, Bloomsbury-street; 459, Moseley-road; 141, Bristol-street; 1, High-street, Handsworth; 79, Digbeth; Aston Cross; 196, High-street, Harborne; 129, Alcester-road, Moseley; 576, Coventry-road; 129, High-street, King's Heath; 81, High-street, Erdington; Colmore-row and Bull-street; 56, Cape-hill, Smethwick; 58, Parade, Sutton Coldfield; 39, High-street, Bromsgrove.

BLACKPOOL.

OPERA HOUSE.—R. M., Mr. Jno. R. Huddlestone; A. M., Mr. W. T. Russell; Mus. D., Mr. J. H. Greenhalgh. — Gertrude Elliott's company in "Come Out of the Kitchen" is the attraction this week. The chief characters are played by Jane Comfort and Lord Lyveden.

GRAND.—R. M., Mr. George Harrop; A. M., Mr. T. Hopcutt; Mus. D., Mr. T. Southworth.—A return visit of the musical comedy, "Going Up," is being paid by Alfred Butt's company, in conjunction with J. L. Sacks, Ltd. The principals are Hal Clemence, Bert Evremond, Ireland Cutler, Ed Vivian, Evelyn Drewe, Ruby Lester, Joe Bliss, May Vivian, &c.

PALACE.—R. M., Mr. George Harrop; A. M., Mr. Fred Waller; Mus. D., Mr. Frank Jepson.—The chief turns are Frank Whitman, Syd. Moorhouse, Burley and Burley, Dan Leno, Junr., &c.

Boors, The Chemists, 12-18, Market-st., Church-st., and Station-rd.

BOLTON.

HIPPODROME.—P., Bolton Theatres & Entertainments Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. W. R. Bleakley; A. M., Mr. Frank Shelley.—Messrs. Beresford and Pearce present "Great Scott!"

GRAND.—P., Bolton Theatres and Entertainments Co. Ltd.; M. D., Mr. W. R. Bleakley; A. M., Mr. Alf. Booth.—Vevey and Erard, with organ; Jack Craig; Cole and Rags; Mullaney Bros.; Denise and Jan; Loch and Lomond.

Boors, The Chemists, 29-31, Knowsley-st.; 139, Derby-st.

BRISTOL.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—M. D., Mrs. Jas. Macready Chute and Mr. John Hart; M., Mr. J. Ellis Miller; A. M., Mr. Geo. M. Chute; Mus. D., Mr. Geo. R. Chapman.—That bright comedy, "Brown Sugar," is delighting large audiences here. Miss Eileen Beldon in the part of "Brown Sugar" scored an immediate success.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Bristol Theatre, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. J. Windsor-Stevenson.—The drama, "How Girls are Brought to Ruin," is produced here by Herbert Morley, under the direction of Mr. C. Hamilton Baines.

HIPPODROME. — M. D., Sir Oswald Stoll; M., Mr. S. Fortescue-Harrison; A. M., Mr. Edwd. Fryer; Mus. D., Mr. Howard W. Galpin.—Heading the programme this week is the quaint comedian Little Tich. Other turns are Chas. Berkeley and Nellie Turner, "the superabovetopholes"; The Three Arizonas, original tomahawk jugglers; Bruce Green, the much-discussed Dame; Miss Alice Lilley, the celebrated soprano; Geo. De Alma, the monarch of the banjo; and Haley's Juveniles, in singing and dancing.

EMPIRE.—P., Bristol Empire, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Harry Day; M., Mr. Coram Smart; A. M., Mr. Frank Riego; Mus. D., Mr. Geo. A. Main.—An attractive programme is headed by the inimitable George Graves, in his new sketch, "Taken and Wanted." Another great attraction on the bill is Violet Essex, the popular vocalist. Other turns are Haig and Esco, Bernard Ash, Billy French, Fidardi and Minnaei, and Nora and Barney Moore.

Boors, The Chemists, 9-10, Wine-street.

CARDIFF.

PLAYHOUSE, LTD.—M. D., Mr. Clifford Hamilton; Asst. M., Mr. Robert Sawin.—Messrs. Armitage and Leigh continue their stay, presenting this week "With Edged Tools" and "The Barrier."

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. C. T. Hutchison; Mus. D., Mr. David Griffiths.—Mr. Harry Day presents the successful revue, "Patches."

Boors, The Chemists, 35, Queen-st.; 31, Albany-rd.

DOUGLAS, I.O.W.

GAIETY THEATRE.—P., Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Charles Fox; A. M., Mr. Fred Barwell.—Messrs. Willoughby's, Ltd., Repertoire Company, headed by Mr. Wyn Weaver and Miss Honour Byrne caught on last week with the Charles Hawtrey and Gladys Cooper comedy of intrigue, "The Naughty Wife." This week they are staging, with popular and artistic success, the crook play, "The Scarlet Band." The characters are intrigued by Miss Honour Byrne, Miss Frances Horsfall, Miss Lucie Evelyn, Mr. R. Stewart West, Mr. Noel Morris, Mr. H. Frazer, Mr. Kendrick Huxham, Mr. Bert Parrett, and Mr. Wyn Weaver.

EDINBURGH.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; G. M., Mr. P. L. Howat; Mus. D., Mr. E. J. Rogers.—The Birmingham Repertory Company bring John Drinkwater's fine play, "Abraham Lincoln," to Edinburgh this week. The noble nature of the liberator was admirably delineated by Mr. William J. Rea, who will be remembered as a prominent actor in Mr. Esmé Percy's company in Edinburgh several years ago. The remaining members of the large cast acted with excellent effect.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.; L., Messrs. Barney Armstrong, Ltd.; B. M., Mr. W. Scott Buccleuch; Mus. D., Mr. John P. Ross. — A varied programme, given twice nightly, at the Royal, introduces the Westgate Trio, in a sketch, entitled "The Broken-hearted Opera Singer"; Leslie Lyn and Co., in a Scottish sketch, "Lapse o' Memory"; Lily Bernard, comedienne; Arthur Slater, "the whistling man"; Jimmy Martin, Scottish comedian; Gilbert and French, dancers; and the Gaiety Girls, in a vocal and dancing entertainment.

KING'S THEATRE.—P., King's Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. A. Stewart Cruikshank; G. M., Mr. John E. Masterton; Mus. D., Mr. A. Douglas Willcox.—Miss Margaret Cooper, gay and delightful as ever, is the principal attraction in this week's programme. The programme is further strengthened by Pearl Mitchell and Sister, in tasteful duets on the violin; O'Neill and Thayer, in musical selections; Denis Hoey, an excellent baritone singer; Stowe Brothers, equilibrists; and Yvonne Mehro and Leslie Granville, in exhilarating dances.

GARRICK THEATRE.—L., Edinburgh Varieties, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Tom Bolam.—A capital variety programme here includes Mary Connolly, Irish soprano vocalist; Alia Richardo, an admirable contralto singer; Belmore and Hall, comedians; Will Blakemore, character comedian; George Hylands and Partner, in a sketch, entitled "Tom's Terrible Tangle"; and Dennif and Donald.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. R. H. Gillespie; R. M., Mr. Leonard Dalrymple; Mus. D., Mr. Felix Burns.—The chief item of this week's bill is Fred Karno's musical mélange, "Yes, Papa," cleverly rendered by Ernest Sefton, Stephanie Stephens, and a strong company. The Nicoletos Trio present an artistic aerial act on an aeroplane; Mayne and Sheridan display nimble wit as a pair of wise jesters; Adam Tomlinson supplies a good comedian turn of songs and stories; while Haydn Wood, the violinist, and Dorothy Court, the prima donna, with Lily Mackenzie at the piano, treat the audience to a delightful musical entertainment.

Boors, The Chemists, 102, Princes-street.

GLASGOW.

ROYAL.—M. D., Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and Geo. T. Minshull; A. M., Mr. Harry F. Ashton.—The season finishes this week with a production of that delightful comedy, "Peg o' My Heart," in aid of the local infirmaries. Miss Agnes Bartholomew, who is at the head of this commendable enterprise, plays the part of Peg, is ably supported by Misses Elliot C. Mason, Catherine Fletcher, and Jean D. Stuart, and Messrs. Jackson, Millar, Hal Stewart, and Wm. St. Clair Stockwell.

OLYMPIA.—L., Artistes' Agency, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. David Bowie; Mus. D., Mr. John Henderson.—Messrs. Stanley May and Marshall Walls are presenting Cyril Dunn in the comedy revue, "Smile Awhile," which is proving much to the taste of local patrons. Cyril Dunn, a most amusing comedian, works hard in the comedy line, able assistance coming from Phil Phillips and Bert Gunell. Edie Gorf and Kitty Dudley sing and dance charmingly, and there is a well-drilled chorus. In addition, Harry Balcon, the harmonious blacksmith, gives an entertaining turn.

ALHAMBRA. — M. D., Sir Alfred Butt and R. H. Gillespie; G. M., Mr. E. W. Crossley Taylor; A. M., Mr. Fred A. Ferne.—Here this week are Dennis Neilson-Terry and company, in the one act, "Crown and Diamond." Other notable turns include Talbot O'Farrell, the Irish entertainer; May Henderson, the dusky comedy queen; A. C. Aston, the globe-trotting ventriloquist; Pasquali Bros., equilibrists; Cornelius and Constance, expert dancers; and Alec Daimler and Dora Eadie, burlesque artists.

COLISEUM.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. R. H. Gillespie; R. M., Mr. L. Lewis.—Jay Laurier, the well-known comedian, holds premier place in the bill at the Coliseum, and brings with him his usual stock of popular ditties. "Three Knocks," a humorous sketch by Fred Rex and company, is another tit-bit of the bill of fare, which also includes Magini, a fiddler of real merit; the Four Williams, acrobats and equilibrists; Marie Lawton, soprano and harpist; Dorothy McBlain, in throat whistling and monologues; and Wilf Burnand, character comedian.

PAVILION, LTD.—M., Mr. J. Kirkpatrick; Mus. D., Mr. Ian Morgan.—Hanlon Brothers head the bill with their latest pantomime absurdity, "The Station Hotel"; Ina Hill is given an enthusiastic reception. Also here are Billie Val and Partner, the Spanish Signorita and her Gentleman Friend in a unique act; McLeod and Britton, the assassins of gloom; Renee, lady juggler; Emily Walter in song and story; and Rimshaw in a speciality act.

Boors, The Chemists, 101-105, Sauchiehall-street.

HALIFAX.

THEATRE ROYAL. — P., Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Wm. Robinson; Mus. D., Mr. Edwin James.—Mr. Leo Trood's company are presenting "The Tiger's Cub," in which Nellie Morris and C. Cranleigh-Andrews play leading rôles. "Sherlock Holmes" will be played the last three nights.

GRAND.—P., Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; A. M., Mr. J. Hinton; Mus. D., Mr. L. Crabtree.—The revue, "Hello, Blackpool," is the attraction here.

PALACE THEATRE. — P., Palace Theatre (Halifax), Ltd.; M., Mr. W. Stephenson; Mus. D., Mr. Wm. Davidson.—A good bill, in which vocal turns predominate, is headed by the Gresham Singers and Julot and Piero, entertainers, and in addition Joseph Cheetham, tenor; Alan Martin, versatile vocalist; Tony Castle, pianist; Jack Holden, comedian; the Musical Burglars; and Winter and Bunny, in quick-change interludes.

Boors, The Chemists, 1, Corn Market.

KETTERING.

COLISEUM. — P., Messrs. Thompson Bros.; G. M., Mr. Arthur Thompson; S. M., Mr. T. Bennet; Mus. D., Mr. Will Sturman.—The "Fast and Furious Follies," a concert party of twelve, provide the attraction here.

Boors, The Chemists, 31,32, Market-place.

LEICESTER.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Sole P. & M., Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; B. M., Mr. W. R. King; Mus. D., Mr. Walter W. Waddington.—A return visit is being paid here by the Wellfitt-Gray Repertory Company, who are presenting Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, "A Perfect Day," with their usual success; Thursday and Saturday, "A Fool in Paradise"; Friday, "Poppy." Specialities are introduced by Marguerite de Halle, Roy Norton, and Beatrice Varley.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole L. & G. M., Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; B. M., Mr. W. R. King; A. M., Mr. Will L. Clement; Mus. D., Mr. J. H. Vann.—F. G. Kimberley and Dennis Clyde's Repertoire Company, in "Mysterious Mrs. Drew," with Annette Howard, Mabel Stacey, Margaret English, Morris Maud, Paul Ash, H. B. Dewhurst, and T. Stacey in the cast. Friday, "The Knife of Death," with Dennis Clyde and Annette Howard in the main parts.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—M. D., Sir Oswald Stoll; A. M., Mr. Trueman Towers; Asst. A. M., Mr. Thomas J. Phillips; Mus. D., Mr. John W. Lowe.—In a good all-round programme here are Charles Windermere and company in a farce, "Getting Off"; Billy Danvers, in a comedy act; the Fayre Four, in a versatile musical potpourri act; Rorke and Bray, in revue successes; Claude Lester, comedian; Suther, one-man musical revue; Lune and Shaw, in comedy act, "Mr. Henpeck and Pecker's Return"; and pictures complete.

PAVILION THEATRE. — P., The Macnaghten Vaudeville Circuit, Ltd.; B. M., Mr. Joseph Lawrence; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Britcher. — A capital revue is presented here by Miss Madge Fenton, entitled "Chuckles," with a good company. Bioscope completes.

Boors, The Chemists, 9, Belvoir-street; 301, Belgrave-gate.

LIVERPOOL.

ROYAL COURT.—M. D., Mr. F. W. Wyndham; A. M., Mr. Arthur Lawrence; Mus. D., Mr. Julien H. Wilson.—"Peri, the Slave of Love."

SHAKESPEARE.—L. & M., Mr. W. W. Kelly; A. M., Mr. Herbert M. King; Mus. D., Mr. Sam Hague.—The attraction here is Vincent Douglas's play, "The Partners." The outstanding figures were those of Ben Dobbin and Sam Tweedle, which were strongly presented by Mr. Wilfred Shine and Mr. William Dewhurst respectively, while worthy assistance came from Charles Fielding, Cynthia Burke, Frances Harper, George Chamberlain, C. W. Anson, George Dudley, Beatrice Fielden Kays, and Auby Leyton.

PLAYHOUSE.—P., Liverpool Repertory Theatre Co., Ltd.; L. & M., Mr. A. S. Pigott; Mus. D., Mr. Joseph Smith.—The new comedy, "Pretending to be Cinderella," is receiving much attention at the hands of the public.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; L. & M., Mr. George Manners; Mus. D., Mr. Felix Arthur.—Some strong lines on this week's bill are Beatie and Babs, who are as diverting as ever; Nixon Grey, always an excellent turn; the popular Daisy Dormer; and Renee and Godfrey, capital girl and boy dancers. Others announced include Mazuz and Mazette, eccentrics, and Arthur Clifford, comedian.

OLYMPIA. — P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. G. Rhodes Parry; Mus. D., Mr. Albert Moore. — A very attractive programme is presented here. Top of it are the Monks of St. Bernard, with their splendid vocal entertainment; "Fashions de Vogue" is a somewhat unique show, and the ladies of the audience are much interested in M. Alphonse Berg's rapid dressing of living models in the latest styles; Florrie Forde is as popular as ever; and others in the list include W. E. Ritchie, acrobat; Lala and Newton, with a clever wire act; Finlay Dunn, the piano comedian; and Russell Carr, ventriloquist.

HIPPODROME. — M. D., Mr. Charles Gulliver; M. & L., Mr. E. W. James; Mus. D., Mr. Frank Stokes.—Harry Tate is here again, causing endless laughter with his "Fishing"; Bert Levy, the accomplished International entertainer, pleases as greatly as before; Sandy Powell brings some good and new things; and contributions also come from Elida Morris, the American comedienne; Will Van Allen, comedian; the Heraldos, acrobats; Ke Koma, with novel speciality; and Gaby Revette, poseuse.

ROTUNDA.—M., Mr. M. Montgomery; A. M., Mr. John Hitchens; Mus. D., Mr. George Dibbert. — In the list here are Clarke and Ritchie, comedians, who pay a welcome return; Celloni, 'cellist; Mark Stuart, character comedian; Tess and Flo Le Roy, entertainers; the Daros, equilibrists; Anita Hayes, comedienne; and Henry and Edgar Martell, eccentrics.

PAVILION.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead & Son; R. M., Mr. Henry Hearn; Mus. D., Mr. Harry Walker.—Top of the bill are Ted and May Hopkins and Co. in "The Poacher"; Knox and Knox are funny burlesque comedians; some remarkable work as gymnasts is done by the Lombard Troupe; and others announced are Kit O'More, in song, story, and impressions; Norman Carroll, comedian; and Jack Blair, character comedian.

Boors, The Chemists, Boots' Corner, Church-street; 11-13, London-road; 1, Lecce-street; 203, Scotland-road; 8, West Derby-road; 233-235, Park-road; 113, Lodge-lane; 79, Wavertree-road; Prudential Buildings, 38, Dale-street; 45-47, Lord-street; 45, Walton Vale, Aintree; 383, Smithdown-road; 116, St. Mary's-road, Garston; 53-55, Seaforth-road; 111-113, County-road, Walton; 55-58, South-road, Waterloo; 51, Stanley-road, Bootle.

MANCHESTER.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—P., The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. John Hart; A. M., Mr. George Lee; M. C., Mr. Chas. W. Chambers.—Mr. "Jimmy" Glover presents here the new farcical comedy, "Biffy," which goes to the accompaniment of much laughter. A well-selected company includes Mr. Henry Ford in the title part, Mr. Arthur Conquest as Timothy Tippetts, and Miss Colette O'Neil as the charming Mignette.

OPERA HOUSE.—P., Theatre Buildings, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. John Hart; A. M., Mr. Jas. Richardson.—Good houses are drawn here by the performance of the popular American-Hebrew comedy, "Potash and Perlmutter," with Henry Adnes and Herbert Landeck sharing the honours in the principal parts. A good cast supports, and the play goes with its usual success.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Mr. Edwin T. Hey's second and last week here brings drama finally to a close at this famous repertory house. The plays presented are "The Dear Departed" and "Hindle Wakes," and interested playgoers are making the most of their opportunities to see both pieces so powerfully rendered.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—P., Messrs. Broadhead and Son; A. M., Mr. Jas. Brearley; M. C., Mr. Chas. Wright.—We have here this week Jack Shires and Co. in "Keepers of the Peace"; Bert Maddison, comedian; Eddie Astor, juggler; Zane and Kitty "K," entertainers; Penman's Nibs, lady acrobats; Bros. Morris, comedians; and The Four Veronas, in a musical act.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—P., Messrs. Broadhead and Son; A. M., Mr. Rex Sugden; M. C., Mr. C. H. Bayley.—Messrs. Beresford and Pearce have a big attraction here in the circus revue entitled "Bare-Backs," which has many elements of novelty, comprising horses, ponies, and bucking mules, with a circus on the stage, bare-back riders, clowns, and all the rest. The cast features Syd Kirby, Gracie Hartington, Gordon Keith, Norah Doran, Rupert Corri, Bros. Austin, The Fossets, and The Napier Trio.

ARDWICK EMPIRE. — M. D., Sir Oswald Stoll; A. M., Mr. A. C. Duncan; M. C., Mr. R. Hardwick.—A strong bill here includes Nat T. Ayer, The Marthful Jovers, Du Calion, Dan Whitley, Holden's Mannikins, Boy Russell and Sophie Forrest, and Alice Coombe.

KING'S, LONGSIGHT.—P., Messrs. Broadhead and Son; A. M., Mr. G. Steel; M. C., Mr. J. Hartley.—Enterprising Theatres (1920), Ltd., present here the well-known musical success, "Beauties," which is drawing good houses twice nightly. A big cast of vivacious players includes Nellie Babbie, Reg. Heaton, Will Lindsay, and Tom M. Willey.

PALACE.—M. D., Mr. Alan Young; M. & Sec., Mr. Jesse Hewitt; Asst. M., Mr. Wm. Taylor; Mus. D., Mr. Thos. Wrathmall.—A big attraction here for two weeks is "Bran Pie," produced by Mr. Herbert Bryan. A first-class revue, featuring the Two Bobs, Odette Myrtil and Rebla, assisted by Cicely Eldon and Billy Holland, and a strong company. Mr. Ben Taylor is responsible for some delightful dances and ensembles, the comedy is good, and the numbers catchy.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Sir Oswald Stoll; M., Mr. Bertram Iles; Asst. M., Mr. F. C. Brooks; Advt. M., Mr. D. Forbes Winslow; Mus. D., Mr. Walter Hague.—An all-round good programme here includes that sterling comedian, Harry Green, in "The Cherry Tree," under the management of the Lewis and Gordon Producing Company; Miss Ruth Vincent; Goodfellow and Gregson; Oswald Bemand; Kenna Brothers; Holson and Bert; and Walker's Juveniles, in a novel quick-change dancing and vocal scena.

HULME HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; G. M., Mr. H. Winstanley; R. M., Mr. H. Hearn; A. M., Mr. Harry Boyle; Mus. D., Mr. Ed. Jones.—Here, with success, Mr. Gar Kiddie presents the new musical comedy burlesque, "It," an excellent show.

Boors, The Chemists, 15-19, St. Ann-street, St. Ann's-square; 48 and 50, Oldham-street; 14-16, Cavendish-street, Stretford-road; 77, Downing-street; 105, Market-street; 1, Oxford-street; 8b, Alexandra-road, Moss Side; 688a, Rochdale-road; 107, Stockport-road; 61 and 65-67, Wilmslow-road, Rusholme; 95-97, Regent-road, Salford; 277-279, Chapel-street, Salford; 690, Stockport-road; 81-83, Piccadilly; 285, Oxford-road; 597, Cheetham-hill-road; 191, Broad-street, Pendleton; 105, Stockport Road; 388, Great Cheetham-street East; 124-6, Ashton Old-road; 6, Victoria Station-Approach; 29, Barlow Moor-road, Chorlton-cum-Hardy; 1137, Chester-road, Stretford; 39, Market-street; 864, Chester-road, Gorse-hill, Stretford; 310, Stretford-road; 191, Eccles New-road, Salford; 404, Regent-road, Salford; 268, Waterloo-road, Hightown.

NOTTINGHAM.

REPERTORY THEATRE. — L., Mrs. Edward Compton; M., Misses Viola and Ellen Compton; D., Mr. Eade Montefiore; B. M., Mr. Leonard Wright; Mus. D., Mr. Frank Gomez.—The Shakespeare Festival here has proved an unqualified success, and the current presentation of "Othello" has not found the Compton Comedy Co. wanting in the high standard hitherto shown. Miss Ellen Compton gives a delightful interpretation of the affectionate Desdemona, and splendidly outlines the emotions of this lovable character. As Emilia Miss Viola Compton reveals her artistic temperament, especially in her clever denunciation of Othello. Mr. Worral-Thompson makes an intense and passionate Othello, and his acting in the murder scene is full of dramatic realism. The villainy of Iago is capitally shown by Mr. Frank Follows. Miss Kathleen Grace spiritedly enacts Bianca, while Mr. Norman Pierce (Roderigo) and Mr. Gerard Neville (Cassio) supply effective embodiments.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. R. H. Gillespie; R. M., Mr. Arthur H. Williams; Mus. D., Mr. Charles Wyndham.—Fred Karno's musical farce, "French Beans," is amusingly exploited by Florence Helm, a vivacious comedienne, Mary Daly, whose quaint drollery keeps the laughter flowing, Ellis Holland, Louise Fredericks, Berence Melford, and Ivan Campbell. Variety turns include Peter Donald and Meta Carson, in a merry sketch; Hart and O'Brian, excellent fun makers; Three Neslos, in a skilful gymnastic act; and Harry Hemsley, a wonderful mimic of children.

HIPPODROME.—P., Nottingham Hippodrome, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. F. Dudman Bromwich; Mus. D., Mr. Horace Watson.—"The Circus Queen" is a remarkable entertainment, embracing a circus performance and a horse race, and the large company of artists acquit themselves well, receiving a warm welcome. They include Maudie Francis, Joan Castle, Dan Rayner, Lewin Mannering, E. Watts-Phillips, Les Corrados, Clown Baker, Claude Ohmy, and a big chorus of girls and ex-Service men, under the conductorship of Myles Hold.

Boors, The Chemists, 22, Goose-gate, Trent Bridge; 48, Arkwright-street; 177-79, Alfreton-road; 126-9, Derby-road; 88 and 269, St. Anne's Well-road; High-street and Pelham-street, Exchange-walk; 21, London-road; 181-183, Mansfield-road; 10, Lister-gate; 1, Angel-road, Market-place; 1, Mansfield-road; 269, St. Anne's Well-road, Carrington-street Bridge; 66, Wilford-road; 12, Wheeler-gate; 12 and 101, Derby-road, Stapleford.

READING.

COUNTY.—"The Rotters."

PALACE.—P., Palace Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. W. T. Simmons; A. M., Mr. A. Burridge.—Ivan Kolchinsky and Co., Fusco, Hughie Williams, and Rose Abbott, in "Backing a Winner."

Boors, The Chemists, 90-91, Broad-street; 2, Duke-street.

"PRINCE FERELON."

OR, "THE PRINCESS'S SUITORS."

Musical Extravaganza in One Act; written and Composed by Nicholas C. Gatty; produced at the Victoria Hall, Waterloo-road, on Saturday, May 21.

The King	Sumner Austin
The Princess	Winifred Lawson
Meryl	Cecilia Nono
Prince Ferelon	Clive Carey

Miss Lilian Baylis gave the first public performance on Saturday night of Mr. Nicholas Gatty's "musical extravaganza," "Prince Ferelon," a gay and graceful trifle that will surely find a permanent place in the "Old Vic." repertory. The libretto is a new version of the old tale of the Princess who was probably the first of the race of rebellious daughters. Her father, tired of her persistent refusals of suitors, gives her three last chances. Even these she rejects; and then takes a wandering minstrel to her heart. But the minstrel turns out to be Prince Ferelon, a most desirable parti, so both sire and daughter are left content.

The old King's trouble of mind at the turning-down of each of the trio makes amusing by-play. The first suitor woos with music, bringing with him a quartet of singers (Miss Vivien Chatterton, Miss Ursula Gale, Mr. Sydney Northcote, and Mr. Colin Ashdown), whose performance of a movement without words sets the monarch lamenting that such counterpoint should go out of the family. The second tries to find the lady's heart by way of her vanity. He designs gowns, which fantastic manikins in his train show off. The third is dance-mad, and never moves but in company with a corps de ballet. All three turn out to be the Prince in yet other disguises, so in the end the Princess gets all the joys of life and true love besides.

Mr. Gatty might have found material in the stormy satire and given it music to match, as did Rimsky-Korsakoff with his fairy-tale, "The Golden Cockerell." But if he had, perhaps the whole thing might have lost the "real English" character which is half its charm. He finds it amiable and simple-hearted, and sets it in music which is, besides, light, tuneful, and exceedingly graceful, and scored by a sensitive hand. The stately measure trod by the Courtiers and dames, and the sparkling valse danced by the ballet, are both as delightful as can be.

The play was well put on, beautifully dressed, in Chaucerian English style, and excellently performed. Many of the chorus singers, it seems, came from the Royal College of Music, and they had been capitally coached. Miss Winifred Lawson, with a very pretty voice, made a fascinating Princess. Mr. Clive Carey, excellent alike as singer and actor, was a personable Prince. Mr. Sumner Austin made a comic King; and Miss Cecilia Nono was particularly good as Meryl, the maid of honour. Mr. Gatty conducted, and received an ovation at curtain-fall.

THE STAGE SOCIETY.

A curious play, clever and morbid as its origin would suggest, was produced by the Incorporated Stage Society at the Royal Court Theatre on Sunday evening and Monday afternoon.

"THE RACE WITH THE SHADOW,"
by Wilhelm von Scholz,

has been excellently translated by Graham and Tristan Rawson, and was very well produced by Theodore Komisarjevsky. Although it has only three characters—for the maid-servant's few conventional remarks are negligible—it holds the attention throughout its three acts. It is not quite clear whether the author is presenting a case of second sight or of dual personality. Indeed, Hans Martins was the possessor of both. He is a writer, and into the book that he is writing since his marriage is putting, unconsciously, the past experiences of his wife, ignorant of the fact that he is merely reflecting the mirror of her mind. In his wild, faithless heroine Martins unsuspectingly draws the woman as she was before he knew her, and her lover, with equal fidelity, believing them both to be creatures of his imagination. A stranger, one who had heard Martins' lecture on his subject, and heard portions of the unpublished book, calls on the author. To his intense astonishment, Martins recognises the appearance and the personality of his own creation, but the idea that his own wife Bertha is the connecting-link never enters his mind. He is disposed to believe that the stranger is his other self, the Dr. Jekyll of his Mr. Hyde. There ensues a strange duel between the two, each seeking to impose his will on the other, but frankly conscious of a curious sympathy that binds them. Martins is insistent that his vision will enable him to foresee all the stranger's actions in their regular sequence; the other man is determined to prove the existence of his free will. In her husband's absence Bertha brings about a meeting between herself and the man she has once loved and deceived. The old passion revives, and she gives herself to her former lover. The scene is faithfully depicted by the writer. He describes the chapter to his wife, and one tiny link after another is forged, until at last he realises in a lightning flash that his wife and the woman in his book are one. There follows a strangely inhuman scene between the two men, a battle of wills. The weaker yields to the suggestion of the stronger, and the stranger kills himself with the revolver handed him by his adversary, in the belief that he has thwarted Martins' intentions. When, after a few moments, news comes of his death, Martins, with a wild laugh, hands the last pages of the book he had finished hours before to his wife, and she reads a faithful record of the events. "Murderer!" she shrieks at him; "Harlot!" he throws back at her, as he rushes off.

Mr. Franklin Dyall gave a fine, convincing performance as Martins, and he actually managed to appear the literary man he was supposed to be. He got the uncanny atmosphere of the visionary, too, remarkably well, and was splendidly sincere in the emotional scenes. Miss Helen Haye played Bertha cleverly, but she has not the temperament for the part of a passionate woman. Mr. George Relph as the Stranger came very creditably through a very difficult part, although he was hampered by a beard and moustache. He conveyed the indecision of the character very skilfully.

The play was received with enthusiasm on Monday afternoon by a large audience.

People who are Blind to their Defects.

Take a hand-mirror and examine your face closely in a strong light. Very few women have the courage to acknowledge the defects of their complexion; they content themselves with a glance at the glass in a dim light, and foolishly hope that any blemishes are concealed by paint or powder, and will be invisible even in broad daylight.

Hardly any woman retains the perfect complexion of childhood; in a strong light nearly every skin reveals some blemish in the form of oiliness, enlarged pores, or even such obvious disfigurements as blackheads. Enlarged pores have three bad effects on the skin: they spoil the texture of the complexion, they produce unpleasant "shine" by allowing too much oily matter to pass out of the skin, and the accumulation of waste matter in them causes ugly blackheads.

For an astringent lotion which gently closes the enlarged pores and effectively removes blackheads, nothing could be more delightful than the sparkling face-bath produced by dissolving one tablet of stymol in a wineglassful of warm water.

Those who are afflicted with blackheads will find that, after bathing them with this mixture, the blackheads will be thoroughly loosened, and come away on the towel, leaving the skin soft and smooth.

Those who have not reached so advanced a stage in the harmful effects of enlarged pores, will, if they are wise, use stymol occasionally as a preventive. This treatment, of

THE REALM OF MUSIC.

THE MUSICAL DIRECTOR.

ORCHESTRAL NEWS AND NOTES.

IN THE CONDUCTOR'S CHAIR.

ALGERNON CLARKE.

Algernon Clarke can justly claim to have had a wide and varied career in the orchestral world, and his name is a house-

[Photo Lyddell Sawyer.

MR. ALGERNON CLARKE.

hold word in all parts of the Empire. His earlier days were spent in the school of experience, and when still young he conceived the idea of running his own orchestras. Success immediately attended this venture, and Algernon Clarke now controls the London Concert Orchestra, which has been engaged at the Albert Hall, Queen's Hall, also many London theatres, the London Dance Band, and the London Ladies' Orchestra. He was complimented personally by the late King Edward, who on several occasions had the pleasure of listening to one or the other of the above combination of instrumentalists, and able to judge of their efficiency.

He has also been musical director to Lord Walsingham, which engagement extended over a period of four years. Other appointments which he has held are musical director to the Empress Club (eight years), Ladies' Army and Navy Club (six years), Sheen House Club (five years), the Wheel Club (two years), and many London theatres. Algernon Clarke is a versatile composer, and has several compositions published by the leading houses. He is the possessor of one of the best orchestral libraries in existence, and has a catalogue of 20,000 pieces. The London Music Library, of which he is the proprietor, and which lends music to cinemas in nearly every town in the United Kingdom, is well known to our readers. He is also sole London agent for Sartori Strings and the Sartori Invisible Mute, which is now used in nearly all orchestras.

An English Conductor.

Against foreign names like de Groot, Emmerich Kallman, and Muk de Jari, mentioned in connection with to-morrow's "Gipsy Princess" at the Prince of Wales' Theatre, a very homely English one like Robert Cox, belonging to the man who will conduct the orchestra, shows itself in a somewhat bold relief. Mr. Cox is a nephew by marriage of Dame Nellie Melba. He started writing music when 15, at Winchester, and a musical comedy of his own, called "The Love Girl" (afterwards "The Purple Lady") was, "The Era" readers will recall, successfully toured last year. It will soon be seen in town.

SONGS AND SINGERS.

B. Feldman and Co.

Fred Barnes continues to score in "Avalon" and "Margie." The former number, by the way, is a big feature in the Gerald Du Maurier play, "Bulldog Drummond" at Wyndham's Theatre.

Jessie Allan proved a pronounced success at the Euston last week, where she featured "Down the Trail" in fine style.

Eric Randolph in "Smilin' Through" was a big success at the Palladium last week.

Ella Shields, writing from Glasgow, says "'Margie' is going exceptionally well here."

Perci Honri proved a big attraction at the Holborn Empire last week, his programme including "Margie," "Avalon," and "Old Pal, Why Don't You Answer Me?"

Kitty Colyer, in Harry Day's "Patches," is an outstanding figure in "Reuben" and "I'd Love to Fall Asleep and Wake Up In My Mammy's Arms."

A dainty feature of the Elliott Savonas' act is "Tell Me," which is artistically produced.

De Alma is scoring with "Let the Rest of the World Go By" and "Avalon."

Albert Whelan continues his excellent work in "Bye Lo," a song of many attractions.

The new Feldman songs have caught on at Douglas and Blackpool, and already the holiday-makers are singing "Avalon," "Margie," "Down the Trail," "The Best Little World," "Down Yonder," "Old Pal, Why Don't You Answer Me?" and "Carissima."

Vera Wooton, whose success in "Come on Papa" is so well known, has now added "Oh You Paree" to her attractive act with the best results.

Haig Bros. and Ryan are doing three Feldman numbers successfully. These are "The Best Little World," "Take Your Girlie to the Movies," and "Up in Mabel's Room."

Dorothy Wick, in "The Rustics," makes a dainty feature of "The Best Little World."

Jack Vincent is most successful in "Down the Trail."

Billie Barclay, in Malcolm Scott's Topics, has a winner in "Rose of Bloomsbury Square."

James Curwell reports "I produced 'Dixie Wedding Bells' and 'Days May Come' at Accrington, and I have never had two such numbers. They are real winners."

June Mills and Billy Innes are scoring on their American tour with "Old Pal, Why Don't You Answer Me?" "Down the Trail," "Tartan Ball" and "Raggedy Doo."

Victoria Carmen finds "Moonbeam" a big favourite, and "Avalon," she says, is "certainly the goods."

Lawrence Wright Music Co.

"Blue Bird" is continuing its successful opening run at Blackpool. As a vocal valse this new hit is taking five encores every night at the Palace Theatre there.

"Omaha" continues to be the big success which was originally predicted for it, and every day the firm receive numerous wires and letters from more than satisfied artists. This is a specimen: "Omaha terrific triumph last night Hippodrome, Stockton, by Alexander's Grand Opera Singers, soloist, Miss Mona Ryley."

Miss Gertie Gitana is one of the latest converts to "Omaha," and audiences were delighted with her rendering of this song at the Palace, Camberwell, last week, and at the Hippodrome, Putney, this week.

An excellent report is to hand from the Grand Theatre, Halifax, of the big success of Lawrence Wright numbers in the "Hello, Blackpool!" Company. These include, "If You're Going Back to Dixie," which is a riot at every performance, sung by Smith and Johnson; "Omaha," sung by Miss Grace Earle; "The Bee That Gets the Honey," sung by Mr. H. E. Forde; "My House is Haunted," sung by Charles Williams, and "City of Laughter, City of Tears," by the Bros. Evans. They also have in rehearsal an excellent new number, "You're Ev'rything That's Wonderful," which makes a splendid duet.

"You're Ev'rything That's Wonderful" is being specially worked by Miss Ethel Castaldini, who is playing the Empire, Wood Green, this week.

Gratifying reports are to hand of the success on its first production by Miss Marjorie Fulton of "Sing a Song of Old Virginia," by Wynn Stanley and Andrew Allen. This number is going very big at the Hippodrome, Brighton, this week.

Alfred Jepson, writing from the Empire, Middlesbrough last week, states that "Castles in the Air," by Worton David and Horatio Nicholls, and a new chorus number, "That Dear Old Dad of Mine," were outstanding hits with him.

Billy Clifford, who is one of the bright particular stars of the "Great Scott" Co. at the Hippodrome, Bolton, this week reports that he continues to score everywhere with "Playthings" and "The Memory of a Song." The last named is the principal number in the repertoire of Miss Dorothy Storm at the Empress, Brixton, this week, also the Golda-Penville Quartette at the Theatre Royal, Hyde, Archie Hill at the Empire, Birmingnam, Miss Alice Lilley at the Hippodrome, Bristol, Miss Ina Hill at the Pavilion, Glasgow, and it is also featured with big success by Miss Ena Towler.

Miss Ethel Leslie is doing excellently with "Playthings" and "If You're Going Back to Dixie" at Collins's this week. The latter is a big feature number of Mr. G. H. Elliott, who is at the Empire, Preston, this week, where Raie and Rosie Walters are working "Omaha."

Francis and Day.

Wilmott Fowler's Koncertos at the Tower Roof Gardens, Blackpool, are scoring a decided hit with that delightful lullaby, "Sweet and Low," which is being utilised in quartette form. Dorothey Fitzgerald, the soprano, is in her element with "Wait Till Your Ship Comes In" and "I Do Miss My Mississippi Home."

Demands for receptions are the order of the day at the Victoria Pier, Blackpool, for such instrumental items as "Wait Till Your Ship Comes in" (played as a cornet solo), "Sweet and Low," "Oh, By Jingo!" and "The Laughing Vamp," which Jan Hurst's orchestra are rendering in faultless fashion.

Bert Lee, who is at Shepherd's Bush Empire, has added "O-Hi-O (o-My-O!)" to his repertory with conspicuous success.

At the Portsmouth Hippodrome, that sweet singer, Jane Croft, is making her usual hit with "Wait Till Your Ship Comes In."

"Sweet Kisses That Come in the Night" and "A Good Man is Hard to Find," are among Violet Trevenyon's admired songs at Belfast.

"Sweet and Low" is being acclaimed at the Cheltenham Coliseum as one of the most fascinating items of Jean Andrews' current budget of songs.

The success achieved by Daisy Taylor with "I Do Miss My Mississippi Home" is being maintained in no uncertain fashion at Finsbury Park this week.

To the clever band of authors and composers attached to the house of Francis, Day and Hunter has now been added J. P. Long.

At the Shorefield Gardens, Westcliff, Clarkson Rose and Olive Fox are again the leading lights of Wallis Arthur's Olympians. The former is eliciting hearty laughter with "The Body in the Bag" and the latter with "I Might Learn to Love Him Later On."

Jack Trent, of Jack Sheppard's entertainers, at Brighton, has an outstanding hit in Fred Curran's chorus song, "We Won the War," and Sadie Logan, of the same combination, is daily being requested to sing "Meet Me," and "Oh, By Jingo!"

At the Kennington Theatre, Joan Downing and Jean Melville have scored a genuine success with "Love Sends a Little Gift of Roses."

CONCERTS OF THE WEEK.

MR. EDWARD CLARK'S CONCERT.

There was no falling off of interest in the last of Mr. Edward Clark's orchestral concerts, which was held in Queen's Hall on Friday evening. The programme included Manuel de Falla's "Nights in the Gardens of Spain," for piano and orchestra. The composer appeared to play the solo part. The music of the three movements is unmistakably Spanish in character and feeling, full of vivid, surprising flashes of colour, and pulsing with life. The solo instrument is used with brilliant effect. These "symphonic impressions" are by far the most attractive of the new foreign music Mr. Clark has let us hear. The performance was a triumph for composer, conductor, and orchestra. Mr. de Falla, enthusiastically acclaimed, insisted on sharing the plaudits with Mr. Clark. Mastery of modern orchestral scoring is shown also by Mr. Gustave Holst in his "Japanese Suite," a series of six well-contrasted sketches. The ingenious and clever "Four Conceits" of Mr. Eugene Goossens, and the rollicking "Jolly Roger" of Mr. Howard Carr, were other native works played. Owing to the non-arrival of parts of Stravinsky's "Fulcinella," a Mozart work—the Concerto in E flat for horn—was heard. A greater contrast to the rest of the programme could not have been found. Mr. Aubrey Brain's playing of the solo was admirable for taste and finished execution.

LEAGUE OF BRITISH ARTISTS.

This enterprising League, which gives a West End hearing to deserving British artists, is, under the energetic direction of Mr. J. Hedley Drummond, still carrying on its good work in great style. Last Saturday's concert at the Steinway Hall introduced several very interesting vocalists. Prominent among these was Miss Mary Warwick, who employed a pleasant mezzo voice, and an engaging personality in several light lyrics, including the late Paul Rubens' delightful "I Love the Moon." with a success which bodes very well for her future. A dramatic-soprano, Miss Marjorie Tarran, also created a very favourable impression in Tito Mattei's "Non é Ver," for which she was encored, whilst Miss Lily Haines, a contralto, proved herself to be a strong and vigorous singer. Other vocalists to acquit themselves honourably were Miss Maude Roberts (soprano), Miss Elizabeth Bryant (soprano), Mr. Sydney E. Emmons (baritone), and Mr. Philip Corbie, the latter a light baritone with a modulated voice, who only needs to cultivate a more robust style in order to be a very useful singer. A welcome touch of novelty was afforded by Miss Madelaine Bathurst, in that her songs were accompanied first by a 'celliste, Miss Janet Berry, and later by an organist, Mr. T. A. Berry. The two solo pianistes, Miss Dorothy Nash and Miss Violet M. Abbott, both proved to be capable exponents of that form of art, Miss Abbott playing the evergreen "Petite Suite de Concert," by S. Coleridge-Taylor. Not the least pleasant features of the evening were the recitations of Miss Maud Minns and the musical monologues of Miss Joan Sellick.

A STUDENTS' CONCERT.

A promising young violoncellist, Dorothea Marno, played solos by Fauré and Frank Bridge, at the Royal College of Music students' concert on Thursday. She produces a sympathetic tone and has a nice easy style. The programme began with a Bach organ solo, capably played by Stuart Leonard, and ended with Richard Walthew—some of whose charming quartets were sung, and very well sung, by Vivienne Chatterton, Constance Taylor, Archibald Winter, and John Andrews—and took in Brahams, Liszt, and sundry moderns by the way. The Brahms Sonata for Pianoforte and Clarinet, in E flat, had a good performance by C. Thornton Lofthouse and Frederick Thurston, the latter of whom is on the way to becoming a clarinettist of accomplishment. John L. Clarke, who gave a fluent and expressive reading of Liszt's "Ricordanza," is a pianist with a firm, even touch and a round, musical tone.

One of the afternoon's singers, Phyllis Hutchinson, should be warned against faulty pronunciation, which is bound to mar the quality of her fine contralto unless corrected at once. Another, Millicent Russell, sang very agreeably, with sympathetic natural tone, songs by Vaughan-Williams and Walter Rummel.

MR. EGERTON TIDMARSH'S RECITAL.

Mr. Egerton Tidmarsh paid present-day English composers the compliment of giving their pieces chief place in the programme of his recital at Wigmore Hall on Wednesday. Tobias Matthay's "Ballade," Herbert Howells' "Procession," Arnold Bax's "Lullaby," and Leo Livens' "Flying Moments" (to which was added Palmgren's "Finnish Cradle Song") made up a pleasantly contrasted group, and the pianist set them forth in a lively and interesting manner. For the rest, the programme was catholic and familiar, for even Scriabin, four of whose Preludes found a place, is a household word nowadays. But Mr. Tidmarsh has qualities that make him distinctly a pianist to hear, even though he ventures only on well-trodden ways. Not only has he a ready and commanding technique; his is a style of considerable charm, and he brings a refreshing musical outlook to bear on everything he plays.

AN AMERICAN SOPRANO.

Ethel Rust-Mellor, another accomplished soprano from the States, made an appearance in London, at the Wigmore Hall, on Thursday afternoon. Mme. Rust-Mellor's is a beautiful voice: pure, bright, and rich when she uses power. Steadiness of emission, a reposeful manner, and an attack on high notes as light and sure as the poise of a butterfly, and which made her singing of such things as Goring Thomas' "Ma Voisine," and the "Sylvan Roundelay," from Rimsky-Korsakoff's "Snegourotchka," very delightful to listen to, are others among her good points. In Lia's song out of Debusy's "L'enfant Prodigue," the singer proved her possession of a full share of dramatic and emotional power.

GUILD OF SINGERS AND PLAYERS.

The Kendal String Quartet, captained by Miss Katherine Kendal, whose associates are Miss Dorothy Jones, Miss Marjorie Clemens, and Miss Edith Hanson, joined Mr. John Adams, the well-known tenor, in the recital at Steinway Hall on Tuesday, the 17th. The ladies opened the programme with Glazounov's Quartet in D minor, giving a sensitive and discriminating performance. They showed much sympathy in their treatment of the beautiful, consolatory Adagio; and the bustling Finale was played with delightful crispness and spirit. The quartet played expressively in the accompaniment to Vaughan Williams' cycle, "On Wenlock Edge." Mr. John Adams sang the songs admirably, getting full dramatic value out of each, and yet never once overstraining the emotional note—a pitfall only too easy to fall into in the case of "Bredon Hill." Mr. Adams' second group was made up of gems of Scottish song, among which "Leezie Lindsay" shone brightest. Miss Kendal's group of violin solos were played in very polished and musicianly style.

A very large audience enjoyed the interesting programme presented on Wednesday by Miss Gwen Ffrangcon-Davies, Mr. John Goss, and Mr. Reginald Paul. To hear Hugo Wolf's "Italienische Lieder" again, and on the lips of so musical a singer as Miss Ffrangcon-Davies, was a great delight. Perhaps "Ihr jungen Leute" may be singled out from the rest for the charm of the air of innocent naiveté that enveloped the singing of it. The group, besides Wagner's immortal song, included two of Metner's, one of Schubert's, and Sinding's "Ein Weib." The two singers were also heard in lovely duets by Purcell, Morley and Robert Jones. Mr. Paul is a pianist whose style is distinguished by a quiet strength that inspires confidence in his abilities. His tone is very musical and his touch clean. His Bach-playing (Capriccio, Partita in C minor) was exceedingly neat, and a seventeenth-century Arietta by Leonardo Leo was played with much grace.

A VIOLIN RECITAL.

Mr. Isaac Losowsky ranged from Tartini to Elgar in the programme of his violin recital at Æolian Hall on Thursday. Much of the music he played, beginning with the Sonata in G minor, showed the virility and clean-cut decision of his style to the best advantage. A captivating Andantino by Max Pirani, the recital giver's clever coadjutor at the pianoforte, was played with a skill and a finish that roused the admiration of Mr. Losowsky's numerous audience.

MR. HOWARD-JONES' RECITAL.

Mr. Evelyn Howard-Jones, at his recital in the Wigmore Hall on Thursday evening, seemed bent on disclaiming the title of purely intellectual pianist bestowed upon him in the days when he specialised in Brahms. There was no want of warmth in his handling of a group of Debussey pieces, although it was warmth, tempered with a restraint that lent a severe beauty to his playing, and that made the readings highly personal and illuminating. The magnificent sonority of his tone, particularly valuable in "La Cathedrale Engloutie," and his command of variety of gradation, were as admirable as ever.

OPERATIC SONG RECITAL.

If merely to frame a programme such as Mr. Ingo Simon put forward at his recital in the Wigmore Hall on Friday afternoon wants a store of knowledge and judgment—it culled some of the choice fruits grown in the Italian operatic orchard during three hundred years—its interpretation demands of the vocalist abilities of an uncommon sort. To say that Mr. Simon was successful in maintaining interest from the beginning until the end is praise indeed. He has a pleasant baritone voice, makes the most of his vocal means, and does not forget the importance of varying his tone and colour with the changing moods of his song. Chief of his qualities, however, is his dramatic perceptivity. There was the majesty of the tragedy in his singing of "Ovecchio Cor, Che Batti," out of Verdi's "I due Foscari," a wealth of gallant swagger in "Sulla poppa del mio brick," from Ricci's forgotten "La Prigione d'Edimburgo," and a prodigality of boastful gaiety in "Quand'ero paggio," out of Verdi's "Falstaff." To content his audience Mr. Simon had to sing the last three times over.

MR. NIMMO'S ENTERTAINMENT.

Mr. Edward Nimmo presented a dramatic and musical entertainment at Steinway Hall on Monday night. Not the least entertaining part of the programme were the duologues by Robert Higginbotham, in which Mr. Nimmo himself appeared. In one of them, a coster love quarrel and reconciliation, the characters of Syd and Syd's girl (Miss Esther Whitehouse) were neatly hit off, and the authentic accent reproduced to the life, to the great amusement of the audience. Miss Mary Merrall was Mr. Nimmo's partner in "Clearly and Concisely," an unkind but laughable skit on fair-sex loquacity, set in the "silence room" of a ladies' club.

Mr. Leslie Harris, who appeared in selections from his repertoire, was another popular contributor to the programme. Mr. Craighall Sherry, the Scotch entertainer, filled in ten minutes with a series of diverting yarns; Miss Joan Downing, a contralto with a rich voice, sang very acceptably, and there were violin solos from Miss Evelyn Holmes, pianoforte pieces from Miss Jean Melville, and songs from Mr. Edward Dykes besides.

N.S.L. CONCERT.

FINSBURY PARK EMPIRE.

Though there was noticeable a falling off in the attendance at the Finsbury Park Empire last Sunday evening, it could not be attributed to an unattractive programme, for the concert proved to be quite up to the usual high standard. Miss Violet Godfrey pleased the audience with a charming rendering of Sanderson's song, "Betty's Garden," and later of Herbert Oliver's "Yonder." "I Did Not Know" (Trotere) was well sung by Mr. Ivor Walters, who was also successful with "Dreaming of Your Eyes." Miss Sophie Rowlands sang with good effect "One Fine Day" (from Puccini's "Madame Butterfly"), and "Love's a Merchant" (Molly Carew). Mr. Tom Kinniburgh was heard to advantage in "Belle-Marie" (Lyall Phillips), and also in the same composer's "Cheerily, Yeo Ho!"

Miss Jeane Paule and Mr. Robert Anthony appeared with marked success in their delightful musical entertainment, "Melodious Memories," consisting of popular songs arranged as duets. After singing three, including the ever-welcome song, "Sincerity," they, in response to an encore, gave "The Key of Your Heart" with pleasing effect.

The selections played by the Scots Guards' Octette were greatly appreciated, and included Gounod's "Faust," "A Day In Paris" (Finck), and Two Dances (Brahms). Cornet solos by Musician R. Stanley and a violin duet by Musicians S. C. Berry and T. Darnell were also notable contributions. Mr. Edward Hastings (who appeared in place of Mr. Nelson Keys) contributed a number of his excellent humorous songs at the piano, which were received with much applause.

MISS CORNISH'S PUPILS.

A delightful display of dancing in aid of the South-Eastern Hospital for Children (Sydenham) and the "Sunshine" Home for Blind Babies was given on Thursday at Hamilton Hall, Forest Hill, by the pupils of Miss Phyllis Cornish. Throughout the lengthy programme the clever youngsters were frequently encored, a compliment which they well deserved.

A ballet written by Miss Phyllis and Mr. Lionel Cornish, entitled "Nita's Dream," was artistic in effect, the beautiful blending of colours in the costumes being agreeably evident. Master David Forbes and Miss Betty Redfern, two little mites of four, fully appreciated the importance of their parts as twin cupids, and a big ovation was accorded them.

HEDNESFORD CHOIR'S SUCCESS.

A closely-contested competition for mixed choirs, held at St. Georges, Shropshire, on Whit-Monday, resulted in the first prize being awarded to Hednesford Philharmonic Society, under the conductorship of Mr. Ernest Amphlett. The test pieces chosen were (a) "Moonlight" (E. Fanning) and (b) "Here's a Paradox for Lovers" (E. German), and for their impressive and satisfying performance of these exacting works they received 176 marks, their nearest opponents being Willenhall, with 174 marks.

The adjudicator, Professor T. Keighley (Manchester University), in his criticism commented upon the fine tone generally maintained, and said that the sustenuto and phrasing of the first piece were exceptionally good, and apart from one or two details was almost a perfect performance. He added, also, that they realised the necessity of getting the right amount of joy out of the second piece, an effect rarely attained by the other choirs.

"MYSTERY"—SUR MER.

Worthing Corporation announces the engagement, as leader of its 1921 season band, of Paul Belinfante, remembered in London as the "mystery" violinist, who, by his playing in the streets of the West End and at the Aldwych Theatre, gave considerable assistance to the ex-Service unemployed. Mr. Belinfante is only 23.

MUSICAL SUGGESTIONS FOR NEXT WEEK'S FILM RELEASE

GUIDE TO MUSICAL DIRECTORS.

(SPECIALLY COMPILED FOR "THE ERA.")

Musical directors should not fail to secure the "Suggestions" for film accompaniments which appear week by week in "The Era." Directors who take advantage of these "Suggestions" will have five days in advance of the release in which to obtain the necessary selections. Musical suggestions, if published, should be on sale when the film is booked, but they seldom arrive before the film, if at all.

This is the secret of the musical director's trouble. He either gets none or they are too late to use for the first house. The Editor of "The Era" has therefore resolved that he will do all in his power to assist in this matter by publishing as many suggestion sheets as possible.

This week's instalment supplies the music most suitable for the following films:

"THE DARK MIRROR."
Paramount-Artcraft Film.
Five Reels.
Released May 30.

Change Cues.	Style.	Nature of Number.
Opening..	Romance..	Slo. Ser. Flo. Mel. Lng.
Miss Dalton meets policeman	Dramatic	Lng. Dram. Agit.
*When Miss Dalton seen asleep	Romance..	Slo. Flo. Mel.
Mrs. Esther Towbridge	,, ..	Mes. Flo. Mel.
Oh, Philip, I'm so ..	Gavotte ..	Simple, Lng.
There is an explanation	Romance..	Bri. Flo. Mel.
Speshul Extry, all about	Dramatic	Shrt. Alleg. Agit.
After a week's investigation	Romance..	Slo. Flo. Mel.
*When storm on ..	Overture ..	Lng. Hvy. Dram.
That's no Dick ..	Mysterioso	Shrt. Mod. Agit.
*When Mario seen seated	Romance..	Ser. Slo. Flo. Mel. Lng.
Flash to "Red" parting	,, ..	Slo. Hvy. Dram.
*When Miss Dalton grabs pistol	Dramatic	Shrt. Hry. Agit.
*When Miss Dalton seen asleep	Romance..	Slo. Ser. Flo. Mel.
Priscilla's portrait finished	,, ..	Mos. Flo. Mel.
Morning and an ominous	,, ..	Hvy. Dram. Flo. Mel.
*When Miss Dalton goes to sleep	,, ..	Ser. Slo. Flo. Mel. Lng
*When "Red" comes up behind	,, ..	Slo. Sli. Dram. Mel.
You've been dreaming	,, ..	Slo. Flo. Mel.
From the Nut's point of view	,, ..	Slo. Ser. Flo. Mel.
*When Miss Dalton seen	,, ..	Slo. Dram. Flo. Mel.
Like Hell, you are ..	Overture ..	Dram. Alleg. Agit.
After the long, silent drive	Romance..	Slo. Flo. Mel.
Madness born of uncertainty	,, ..	Slo. Ser. Flo. Mel.
After weeks of delirious	,, ..	Ser. Flo. Mel.
I am going back to ..	,, ..	Slo. Flo. Mel.
Philip! Philip! It's you	,, ..	Bri. Flo. Mel.

* Action. Rest titles.

"THE TATTLERS."
Fox Film.
Released May 30.

Change Cues.	Style.	Na Nu
PART I.		
Our story takes us ..	Romance..	Bri.
You're ol' enough ..	,, ..	Ser.
Haven't you an atom of	Overture ..	Hvy.
*When Mrs. Arnold enters	Intermezzo	Bri.
In the meanwhile ..	,, ..	Bri.
It was such fun ..	Romance..	Ser.
A sinister figure ..	Overture ..	Hvy.
PART II.		
*When woman friend enters	Romance..	Bri.
Ever hear of your ex-wife	,, ..	Ser.
Fate's chronic jest ..	,, ..	Lit.
*When couple exit ..	,, ..	Sli. D. F.
Early next evening ..	,, ..	Ser.
*When Carpenter enters	,, ..	Ser.
PART III.		
*When Carpenter 'phones	Intermezzo	Lit.
O, my dear	Old song ..	Roma
*When solo over ..	Intermezzo	Lit.
Sam, tell me the truth	Romance..	Ex. D
*When Carpenter enters	Intermezzo	Lit.
I have to ask you ..	Romance..	Slo.
PART IV.		
You . . . you know..	Romance..	Slo. D. E.
Don't send him away, mother	,, ..	Slo. S. E.
So this is why you are	,, ..	Sli. E. Dram
My father	Overture ..	Hvy.
Before I go, mother, dear	,, ..	Dram.
PART V.		
*When Carpenter seen in bed	Overture ..	Slo.
He is dead	Romance..	Ser. Dram.
*When Mrs. Arnold enters	,, ..	Slo. D.
*When boy on door ..	,, ..	Ex. D. Mel.
*When Mrs. Arnold wakes up	,, ..	Ser. D. Lo

* Action. Rest titles.

BRITISH MUSICIANS' PENSION SOCIETY.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual general meeting was held at 9, Gerrard-street, on May 11. Mr. J. Arthur was elected to the chair.

After the formal business of the meeting the chairman addressing the members on the progress of the Society, said that 34 new members were made in 1920, a net increase over 1919, and 1921 showed signs of an even larger number. The Society by the death of Mr. H. Moon, had lost its first pensioner. He was happy to say that the fourth pension was now almost realised, £150 only being now required to make it an accomplished fact. He felt sure that the splendid objects of the Society and the efforts to assist all musicians only required to be better known to make it the large Musicians' Benevolent Society in the country.

Turning to the Samaritan Fund (for the relief of non-members), he was pleased to notice that 48 cases had received relief from this source; no genuine case had been refused, and the most grateful thanks of the Society went out to all those who had acted as collectors to the fund or had given donations.

He most heartily congratulated the meeting on having passed the resolution which started a fund for the foundation of a convalescent home for musicians. This was a thing most badly needed in the profession, and the fact that it was a part of the Samaritan Fund made all musicians more responsible for its success and support.

After a vote of thanks to the chairman, the committee and officers, the meeting, which was very enthusiastic, terminated.

STUDENTS' DANCING DISPLAY.

On Thursday, Miss Norah Eyre, who has been running with great success classes at Barnes, Chiswick, and Ealing for the instruction of operatic, classical, and character dancing, gave an exhibition in the Town Hall, Chiswick. The excellent programme, which was contributed by the students opened with the ballet "Spring," followed by "The Artist's Dream," a very artistic item, by Miss Norah Eyre and Mr. Harry Peach—a very pleasing number was an exhibition of ballroom dances by two very juvenile performers, Master Walters and Mlle. Gaye. Then followed "Nursery Favourites," which "Babs Georgia" and Phillip Webb, Ruth King, and Jack Webb did good work. The jazz dance of Margaret Stevens was excellent, as was also "Phantom Dance" by Isobel Lines. Miss Norah Eyre contributed a Blue Bird dance in a charming costume and with excellent technique. Betty Tims did well as "Dawn," Molly Gayes as "Day," Kathleen Mendelson as "Sunset," and Joan Edney as "Night." A "National and Patriotic" selection concluded the programme.

Miss Bertha Barclay did good service at the piano. Mr. Arthur J. Barclay, was in his usual form as acting manager. At the end a very handsome dress-case was presented to Miss Eyre by her pupils, and a music case to Miss Barclay.

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IN AID OF

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES' BOY SCOUT FUND.

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" MARGARET COOPER (by kind permission of Sir Oswald Stoll).
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Miss MONA GREY.
" MARJORIE HAYWARD.
" CARMEN HILL (engagements permitting).
" HELEN MILLAIS.
" LUCY NUTTALL.
Mr. KENNEDY ARUNDEL.
" GEORGE BAKER.
" HARRY BARRATT.
" STERNDALE BENNETT.
" HUBERT EISDELL.
" K. JOHN KEY.
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AN EMINENT VIOLINIST.

M. Emilio Colombo, the eminent violinist, who was soloist to the Russian Imperial Court, and after escaping from the Bolshevists played his way round the world, will give a recital at the Æolian Hall on Wednesday next at 8.30. M. Adalgiso will be at the piano.

Bath's Distinguished Visitor.

Sir Henry Wood, the famous Queen's Hall conductor, who was accompanied by Lady Wood, paid a private visit to the Royal School, Lansdown, Bath, on Thursday last. He heard some of the girls play the piano, and afterwards discussed music teaching with the staff. After the school had sung to him he addressed the girls on the subject of music.

R.C. OF M. PATRON'S FUND.

The next rehearsal of works by British composers will take place on Thursday, June 2, 1921, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Royal College of Music. The New Queen's Hall Orchestra will be conducted by the composers and Mr. Adrian C. Boult.

Gay Cadets.

Messrs Birchmore and Linden have also obtained their customary pitch by the West Lift, Bournemouth, and here they present the old favourites, The Gay Cadets. Large crowds gathered to enjoy the initial performance on Whit Monday, and testified in no uncertain manner their appreciation of the mirth and melody offered by this party. The company contains some versatile artists, and all working with a will the performance went with a rare swing throughout.

CONCERT PARTIES ON TOUR.

ARCADIANS.—May 23, Arcadian Pavilion, Leeds; 30, Arcadian Pav., Halifax.
ARCADY.—May 23, Routh Park, Cardiff; 30, Patti Pav., Swansea.
BOX O' VESTAS.—May 23, Pav., Jesmond Dean; 30, Arc. Pav., Leeds.
BREVITY.—May 23, Summer Pavilion, Barry Island; 30, Assembly Rooms, Salisbury.
BROWNIES, THE.—May 23, St. Anne's.
BUBBLES, THE.—May 23, Floral Hall, Hornsea; 30, Palace, Clacton.
BUSYBODIES, THE. — May 23, Jephson Gardens, Leamington.
CAMOUFLAGE.—May 23, Town Hall, Sale; 30, Assembly R., Chester.
CARNIVAL.—Arcadia, Sandown (season).
CATLIN'S ROYAL PIERROTS (No. 1).—New Arcadia, Scarborough (season).
CATLIN'S ROYAL PIERROTS (No. 2).—Arcadia, Llandudno (season).
CATLIN'S ROYAL PIERROTS (No. 3).—Arcadia, Colwyn Bay (season).
CHUMS.—May 23, South Parade Pier, Southsea; 30, Pier, Southampton.
CIGARETTES.—May 23, O.H., Bridlington; 30, O.H., Bridlington.
DUTCH PLAYERS, THE.—May 23, Pavilion, Redhill.
ELITES, THE.—May 23, Folkestone.
FANATICS, THE.—New Pavilion, Burnham-on-Sea (season).
FANTASY.—May 23, N.A.C.B., Bulford Camp; 30, N.A.C.B., Aldershot.
FARCE.—May 23, Clarence Pier, Southsea.
FOREST FOLK.—May 23, Empire, Redcar; 30, Rusholme Pav., Manchester.
FRILLS AND FLOUNCES.—Central Pier, Morecambe (season).
FUZEES.—Sandylands Pav., Morecambe (season).
GEORGIANS.—May 23, Essex Hall, Watford.
GIPSIES, THE.—May 30, Spa Pav., Felixstowe.
HARLEQUINS.—Ramsgate (season).
IDEALS.—May 23, North Pier, Blackpool.
IMPERIAL SCOTS.—May 23, Alex. Hall, Lancaster.
JACK O'LANTERNS.—May 23, Salisbury.
JAKE-A-LOO.—May 23, Grove, Tunbridge Wells; 30, King's, Oswestry.
JOLLITY.—May 23, Albert Hall, Stafford; 30, Summer Pav., Barry Island.
JOVIAL JOLLIES, THE.—New, Crewe (season).
LAUGHING TIME.—May 23, Hoylake; 30, Town Hall, Sale.
MAIDS AND MIDDIES, THE.—May 23, Palace, Woking.
MASKS AND FACES.—May 23, Spring Gardens, Norwich.
MAYBELLES, THE.—May 23, Bohemia, Broadstairs.
MERRIONS, THE.—May 23, Keswick; 30, Hoylake.
MERRY JAPS.—New Pavilion, Morecambe (season).
MEXICANS, THE.—May 23, Leslie's Pavilion, Rusholme.
MOUNTEBANK PLAYERS, THE.—May 23, Winter Gardens, Bournemouth.
NEW CADETS.—May 23, Douglas; 30, Douglas.
NONSENSE.—May 23, Rock Ferry; 30, Pier Pav., St. Anne's.
NOVELTY.—May 23, Corporation Parks, Glasgow; 30, Corporation Parks, Glasgow.
O.P.Q.'s, THE.—Pier, Eastbourne (season).
OPTIMISTS, THE.—Arcadia, Llandudno (season).
PEDLERS (1).—Clifton Hall, Margate (season).
PEDLERS (2).—Whitby (season).
PEEP-SHOW.—May 23, Patti Pav., Swansea.
PIED PIPERS, THE.—May 23, Anglesey Palace, Burton-on-Trent.
PIERROT, PIERRETTE, AND PIANO.—May 23, His Majesty's, Barrow-in-Furness; 30, Jesmond Dene, Newcastle.
POPPIES, THE.—Hastings (season).
POT-POURRI.—Promenade Pier, Teignmouth (season).
PRO RATAS. — May 23, King's, Melton Mowbray; 30, Pavilion, Ilfracombe.
QUALITIES, THE.—May 23, Pavilion, Swanage.
RAMBLERS, THE.—May 23, Whitley Bay; 30, P. Gardens, Leamington.
ROGUES, THE.—May 23, Ilfracombe; 30, Essex Hall, Watford.
ROLLING STONES, THE.—May 23, Royal Hall, Harrogate.
ROYAL MASCOTS, THE.—May 23, Gravesend.
ROYAL VAUDEVILLIANS, THE.—May 23, Pier Pavilion, Plymouth; 30, Pav., Burnham.
RUSTICS, THE.—Pav., High Wycombe (season).
SEVEN ACRES, THE. — May 23, Bijou, Swanage; 30, Pier, Penarth.
SEVEN ESCALADES, THE. — May 23, King's, Oswestry.
SEVEN NOBODIES, THE.—May 23, Halifax; 30, Normantin Pav., Derby.
SOCIETY SIX.—May 23, King's Hall, Herne Bay.
SUMMITS, THE.—May 23, Pavilion, Normanton; 30, A. P., Burton-on-Trent.
SUPREMACY.—May 23, Tonbridge.
TANGLERS, THE.—May 23, Palace, Holbeach.
TATLERS, THE.—May 23, Aix-le-Bains.
VARIETIES.—West End Pier, Morecambe (season).
VERSATILES, THE.—May 23, Lounge, Hunstanton.
WANGLERS, THE.—May 23, Pleasure Gardens, Evesham; 30, Pleasure Gardens, Evesham.
WAVELETS.—Harbour Pav., Morecambe (season).
WITS, THE.—May 23, Queen's, Berwick; 30, Glasgow.

"ALL-STAR" CONCERT FOR BOY SCOUTS.

A constellation of stars has been gathered together for a grand concert to be given at the Queen's Hall on Monday evening next, May 30, in aid of the Prince of Wales's Boy Scout Fund. The concert has been organised by Mr. E. G. H. Fremantle, of the Newman Orchestral and Concert Agency, who has secured promises to appear from the following distinguished artists:—Miss Margaret Balfour, Miss Annie Bartle, Miss Rosina Buckman, Miss Margaret Cooper, Mlle. Delva (principal prima donna Royal Opera House, Milan—first appearance in England), Miss Mona Grey, Miss Marjorie Hayward, Miss Carmen Hill (engagements permitting), Miss Helen Millais, Miss Lucy Nuttall, Mr. Kennedy Arundel, Mr. George Baker, Mr. Harry Barratt, Mr. Sterndale Bennett, Mr. Hubert Eisdell, Mr. K. John Key, Mr. Leonard Lovesey, Mr. Sidney Pointer, Mr. Charles Tree, Mr. Gwilym Wigley, Miss Muriel George and Mr. Ernest Butcher, Miss Amy Porter and her Cecilian Bijou Orchestra, and the Sandringham Singers. The accompanists will be Fredk. B. Kiddle and Hubert Bath.

Tickets (including tax), reserved 12s., 8s. 6d., 5s. 9d.; unreserved, 3s. 6d., 2s. 4d., may be obtained of Mr. Fremantle, 67, Newman-street, Oxford-street, W. 1., and of the usual agents.

On the following evening a "Scout Ball" for the same cause, under the auspices of the Hyde Park Dance Club, will be given at the Hyde Park Hotel. Dancing to Mr. Malcolm Ives' orchestra will go on from 10 to 3.

CONCERT PARTY & ENTERTAINMENT NOTES.

Excessive Rentals at Seaside Resorts—Prices of Admission—A Hint to Local Authorities.

A writer in the daily Press expresses the opinion that most of the people connected with the business of the theatre are either making no money or else they are losing money, and it is suggested that the rents paid for theatres are excessive. In a similar manner the rents charged to concert party proprietors by proprietors of halls and pavilions is also more than they should be expected to bear. We have already pointed this out in these columns more than once. Especially does this apply to concert parties at the seaside resorts, where they are actually an attraction to the town and help to bring visitors. Yet the concert party proprietor is mulcted in a high rent for the privilege of supplying the attraction, and incidentally saving large amounts of money for the ratepayers.

Charges for Pavilions.

There is a big slump in the entertainment business all round, and there is a huge business depression all over the country. These are facts well known, but do the local Corporations and Urban District Councils charge any less for the hire of their "pitches" or pavilions? We rather think that, on the other hand, they are asking more and more. How, then, can the C.P. proprietor be expected to pay his way? Salaries are up, and, in fact, every item of expense connected with running a concert party is far greater than ever before. This consideration, taken into account with the general depression, makes it a difficult matter for the C.P. proprietor to get out without a loss. We consider it is the duty of all local bodies to give consideration to the question of the rents they charge, so that concert parties may have a fair chance of paying their way.

Present-day Money Values.

The writer of the article which we have alluded to considers that the theatrical managers should reduce their prices for seats, and maintains that by doing this they would pack their theatres and take more money. In the case of the concert party, the size of his pitch or hall is usually so limited that he has to play to capacity nightly in order to clear expenses, and if he cheapened his seats it might well mean the abandonment of any chance of making a profit.

If we concede that the value of the sovereign is only about ten shillings as compared with a few years ago, it is obvious that the prices charged for a concert party entertainment are far below what they used to be. Yet the expenses have nearly doubled. 6d., 1s., and 1s. 6d. would be about the average prices charged five years ago. Nowadays they are 9d., 1s. 3d., and 1s. 10d., including entertainment tax. Where is the increase as far as the concert party proprietor is concerned? Only in the cheapest seat, where he actually gets 7d. instead of 6d. That is to say, he gets one penny more on one section of his seats than he did in pre-war times, whilst if his patrons paid according to the value of the sovereign he should be getting double the amount all round.

Reduce the Rentals.

The additional cost of running concert party entertainments now do not stop at rent and salaries, however. Owing to the great competition, the productions have to be carried out on a far more elaborate scale, and it is not exceptional for a proprietor to expend a hundred pounds on original concerted numbers alone, and these concerted numbers often necessitate expensive "props" or costumes. We consider it is up to the local councils and other bodies to give all the assistance they possibly can to those proprietors who have a reputation for presenting good shows. If they do this they will secure strong attractions for their towns, which should surely be one of their objects in the interests of the ratepayers. They might, with every advantage to the town, forego any rent whatever, and thus ease the way for the concert party proprietor, who, for the sake of his own reputation, will see that a good entertainment is provided.

Littlehampton's Loss.

We hear that in view of the rent required by the Council at Littlehampton Mr. Fred Spencer is not running his concert party this summer. Mr. Spencer's name is a household word at Littlehampton, and his entertainments have for many years been a strong attraction. He is one of the most experienced of concert party proprietors, and we cannt help thinking that the Littlehampton Council have made a mistake in not meeting him in the matter of terms.

By the way, Mr. Spencer has been scoring very considerably on the halls with his new act, "Mrs. 'Arris of the 'Sunday 'Erald.'" The novelty of the turn is absolutely refreshing, and Mr. Spencer's portrayal of Mrs. 'Arris is quite in his best vein of comedy. We wish him continued success.

CONCERT PARTIES AT WORK.

The O.P.Q.s.

At the Pier, Eastbourne, on Whit-Monday, the O.P.Q.s made a splendid beginning to their season. At the head of the merry and very efficient band of pierrots is Mr. Franklyn Vernon, whose courtesy and very clever work have long established him a favourite here, and his songs, sketches, &c. (including "Speech Day"), are conspicuous successes. Miss Effie Weston is a gifted soprano, and her pure, sweet, flexible voice is used delightfully in such selections as the waltz song from "Tom Jones" and "Big Silver Moon." Bright and sparkling work is contributed by Miss Edith Faulkner, whose light comedy and fascinating manner are invaluable in "Great Big Kiss" and "Hullo." Mr. Charles Lumb has a fine tenor voice, and his delightfully artistic rendering of "Wait" was a notable item. Mr. George Thomas has already set up a reputation as an exceptionally able and popular humorist, and his "Who's Who at the Zoo" and the "Sceneshifter's Lament" are very enjoyable items. Mr. Billy Collier, too, takes a full share in laughter-making with his quaint, amusing numbers, "Reggie's Reasons" and others; and Miss Rita Recs at the piano is an accompanist and soloist of high merit. The concerted items of the company are given with a swing.

Mabel Leslie's New Cadets.

The New Cadets, Miss Mabel Leslie's vaudeville company, enter their second week of this present engagement at Derby Castle, and their success is assured. The show is original and well considered. Miss Mabel Leslie's dramatic monologues and comedy recitals are much appreciated. They strike rather a new note in concert party work as it is understood in Douglas, and consequently it gets over. Mr. Harrington Week is a resourceful light comedian, and all the members of the company—seven in all—have some specialty to offer, which will be found worth witnessing.

Feldmans' Songsters.

Douglas Head without Feldmans' songsters would lack its chief charm to many pleasure-seekers. The performances obtain twice daily, and the artists include Miss Maud Hughes, as ever a charming singer and a piquant comedienne; Miss Beryl Bardsley, soubrette; Mr. A. McKepsie; Mr. Alex. Meux; Mr. Eddie Walker; Mr. Donald Hatton, and Mr. Harold Brown. Feldmans' Songsters are also the great evening attraction at Villa Marina, and their frequent changes of programmes make their entertainments popular.

Pied Pipers.

Lettice Newman and Eric Richmond present the Pied Pipers popular concert party at the Anglesey Palace, Burton-on-Trent. The company consists of Shaun Desmond, Roy Denton, Grace de Gray, Sam E. Curtis, Edith Williams, Lettice Newman, and Eric Richmond.

Fred Wildon's Party.

Mr. Fred Wildon's party is again popular at Margate. The leader's inimitable phono-fiddle numbers are as delightful as ever. Other members of the party include Mr. Frederic Gregory, Miss Mignon Gresier, Miss Dorrie Dene, Mr. Fred Bech, and Mr. Frederic Arthur. The concerted items are a feature of the concerts.

May Belles.

The May Belles are at Bohemia, Broadstairs, this week. The party consists of Wally Gay, Irma Douglas, Phil Lister, Gracie Symonds, Denis Alban, Marie Gay and Freddie Fay.

Forest Folk.

The novel, artistic and original lines on which Richard Jerome presented his troupe of Forest Folk at the Essex Rooms, Watford, last week, was greatly appreciated. The entertainment opened with a fantasy amidst sylvan surroundings, where the artists, dressed to represent fairies, are transformed into mortals, henceforth to go through an excellent and well-varied programme of dances, songs, duets, and concerted items. The company consisted of Joyce Winston (dancer), Winnie Victoria (comedienne), Joan Wayland (soprano), Ronald Earle (baritone), Will Merritt (light comedian and dancer), Walter Amner (comedian), and Fiona Leigh (pianist).

Farce.

The versatile concert party above named drew large audiences to the Pier Pavilion, Plymouth. As a speciality vocalist Miss Agnes Rayson sang with a winsomeness that was irresistible, and her duets with Mr. Harry Storey were an outstanding feature of the programme. Miss Blanche Herr is a charming contralto, and Mr. Maurice White's baritone was generally admired. Both vocalists scored in the selection of their songs, their tastes being artistic. The contributions of Miss Ray Hilton, a dainty soubrette, were highly appreciated, and Mr Archie Wallen's success as a comedian was immediate and sustained. Mr. Bobbie Cowgill's terpsichorean skill afforded considerable pleasure, and Mrs. Storey was a clever entertainer at the piano.

Pedlers.

Mr. Leslie Fuller's Pedlers have started their second season at the Clifton Concert Hall, Margate, one of the enterprises of Mr. J. H. Iles. The party derives its title from the fact that when war broke out Mr. Fuller, through the Inns of Court, obtained a commission in the Hunts Cyclists. Mr. Fuller is the life and soul of the party, which also includes Miss Hilda Thurlow, a clever comedienne and dancer; Miss Elsie Gregory, a notable soprano; Miss Gwendolyn Doig, a violinist of promise; Mr. Arthur Robson, lyric tenor; Mr. Leonard Clifford, light comedian and dancer; Mr. Jack Stanley, comedy comedian; and Mr. Cecil Reed, a brilliant pianist.

The Scamps

This party is as bright and lively a one as Norwich Spring Gardens habitués have seen for a long time. Nothing went better than a sketch on a Shakespearean foundation with an old English air musical setting. The baritone songs contributed by Mr. Trevor Watkins were not more popular than they deserved to be, and Mr. Wolseley Charles, a host in himself, had the assistance of Floyd Gwynne, Mr. George Morgan, and Mr. Will Seymour. A ballet dance by Miss Rita Egerton afforded great pleasure. Miss Jessie Russell, a singer with a sweet voice, is a great favourite, and so, too, is Miss Connie Clive, whose character songs were a real delight.

Jollity.

The attraction at the Assembly Rooms, Salisbury, for Whitsuntide was Mr. R. Jerome's company Jollity. They include the Misses Marion Broughton (soprano), Joan Mayer (contralto), Blanche Marion (comedienne and dancer), Winifred Quick, A.L.C.M. (pianoforte solos), Messrs. Rex Rushley (light comedian), Teddie Butland (baritone), Sammie Esden (comedian), the company do all in their power to provide an enjoyable entertainment, and many of their songs are new. The dresses and scenery are novel, and the concerted numbers are well rendered.

Mischief.

The management of the Assembly Rooms, Chester, must be congratulated on securing the excellent concert party Mischief, appearing here this week. The combination consists of seven talented artists, including Elsie Ingle and Jack Granville (and a piano), who give a very clever turn which the audience is not slow to appreciate. Edward Sydney, humourist, and Sydney Wilson, are both fine comedians, and supply the fun and humour of a delightful programme. Eva George, comedienne, is very droll; Fred E. Wynne, tenor, possesses a fine voice which he uses to great advantage; Aimee Floretta, speciality dancer, delights everyone with her graceful dancing, and is well received. The concerted numbers go with a swing, the voices harmonising in a delightful manner, and the setting and lighting effects are a special feature.

Bournemouth Pier Pierrots.

Messrs. Birchmore and Linden have again secured the stand by the Bournemouth Pier, which they have had for many previous seasons, and on Whit Monday they presented The Pier Pierrots. This popular party possesses some clever talent, and a varied and attractive programme was offered, and the opening performance was altogether a successful and auspicious one. A large audience thoroughly testified their approval. Performances are given three times daily.

A NEW VOCAL ACADEMY.

THE LONDON SCHOOL OF SINGING.

A new singing academy, the London School of Singing, had a very successful inauguration on Thursday evening last. This institution boasts commodious premises at 20a, Henrietta Street, Cavendish Square, and is under the direction of Messrs. Ward Cowdrey, Stephen M. Lumsden and A. Nettlefold. The work of the school is to be concentrated entirely on the Art of Singing, and with such experienced teachers as Mr. Ward Cowdery (pupil of M. Jean de Rezke), and Mr. Stephen M. Lumsden (for several years with the late Sir Joseph Barnby), it may be confidently assumed that the possibilities of every student's voice will be completely realised. Moreover, the celebrated singer, Madame Albani, has also kindly consented to give lessons to a limited number of pupils.

During the course of the reception, which was held on Thursday in the Concert Room, an opportunity was afforded of hearing the work of several ladies and gentleman who have received individual tuition from the principals above named, and the standard of the work was commendably high in each case. Those who sang were Miss Maggie McKinnon (soprano), Miss Evelyn Moore (contralto), Miss Margaret Norton (mezzo), Miss Wynifred Meurice (mezzo), Miss May Mac Dowall (soprano), Miss Florence Gulliver (contralto), Mr. Rupert Harvey (tenor), and Mr. R. MacGowan (baritone). Both Miss Margaret Norton, who has a rich-toned voice, and Mr. Rupert Harvey, who sang Tschaikowski's "A Summer Love Tale with fine vivacity were encored. This new school, with its central position and experienced staff, should provide many artistic recruits for our concert halls.

MAURICE PIENA.

This week's novelties include all classes of music—dramatic and tragic melodies, flowing dramatic numbers, light numbers and waltzes. The new waltz advertised by Maurice Piena, "Baisers de Mai," by Maurice Daras, belongs to the intermezzo type, and is written in the song style. The trio is dainty and in charming distinct themes, neither of which is very long.

"La Caprichosa" is a light, flowing number, founded on the song by Morrisson. It has a simple rhythm and is written in two movements. "Preciosa," by Barbirolli, is somewhat similar in style and treatment. Both these numbers are excellent light, flowing numbers, for bright scenes, and are arranged by Hans Ourdine.

"Quand Finit le Tournoi," by Noletty, is a number in six-eight time. An "air de ballet," very effectively orchestrated, it opens in the minor, afterwards passing to the major with a trio in the dominant, with a short coda finishing up presto in the major.

One of the most effective pieces yet issued by Maurice Piena is "Idylle," by Fourdrain, a nocturne for orchestra. The versatility of Felix Fourdrain is widely known. His works are very melodious, effectively orchestrated, and yet simple. Some of his songs were included in the programme of music sung by Mr. Roland Hayes by command at Buckingham Palace. This Idylle has an effective melody treated in a simple time. It is accompanied by triplets in the treble and a brighter melody in the 'cello, afterwards changing to triplets in the basses, where the movement becomes slightly clearer. This triplet effect is continued throughout the number, although it occasionally changes to groups of sixes, but the rhythm of the whole number remains in triplet effect throughout. Although no very modern keys or harmonies are employed, there is some effective treatment in the harmonisation, and a few bars before the close there are some tonal changes. The chief key throughout is major. This number, which is included in the subscription for June, is worthy of the attention of every musical director.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

Business at the Theatres—"Pins and Needles" for the Gaiety—A Theatrical Managers' Convocation—Martin Harvey's Home-Coming.

The Week's Premières.

The cooler weather which opened the week did not have much effect on the attendances at places of amusement, and the queues at theatres have remained lamentably small. In one or two instances the audiences have been almost up to the normal, but that has been in the case of a strong attraction.

After a comparatively slack period great activity in the way of first nights is manifest. This (Wednesday) evening sees the reopening of the Duke of York's with "The Woman and the Apple" and "The Tartan Peril," the latter play now being announced as by Dr. T. Ross Scot.

Two productions are underlined for to-morrow. The new musical play, "The Gipsy Princess," with Miss Sari Petrass and Mr. Muk de Jari in the leading rôles, is due at the Prince of Wales's, and Diaghileff's Russian Ballet as reopening at the Prince's with "Children's Tales," "La Bontique Fantasque," and "Les Sylphides."

Friday's fixtures are of even greater importance. In the afternoon the theatre of the Academy of Dramatic Art in Gower-street is to be inaugurated. The programme for the occasion consists of the first act of Pinero's "Trelawney of the Wells," by ex-students, a new one-act play "A Man in the Dock," acted by present-day students, and the first act of an entirely new comedy, named "Shall We Join the Ladies?" written by Sir James Barrie, with every part played by a leading actor or actress. In the evening Lord Dunsany's new play, "If," will be produced by Mr. H. M. Harwood at the Ambassadors, with a company headed by Miss Gladys Cooper and Mr. Henry Ainley.

Lord Dunsany's new play with the old title, "If," was, at the time of going to press, shaping well for production at the Ambassadors Theatre on Friday. One of the previous "If" plays was a three-act farce by Rutherford Mayne, produced in November, 1913.

Hiberno-Caledonian.

Additional interest in "The Tartan Peril" may be found in the facts that the leading lady in this somewhat Scottish comedy is that delightful Irish coleen, Mary O'Farrell; that Sam Livesey and Jack Livesey (father and son) appear therein; and that Henry Wenman (son of the late celebrated actor of the same stage surname, who played with Irving) also has a fine part. Also, that the general manager of the Duke of York's is Captain William Giffard-Barry, who, before going to the wars, used to tour as actor-manager William Giffard, in a powerful historical drama, called "The Red Coat."

New "Points" to "Pins and Needles."

Several special changes have just been made by Albert de Courville in his revue, "Pins and Needles," which goes to the Gaiety on Monday. These changes include a new "Macbeth" travestie for the Shakespearean selections, and a new "surprise" sketch, written by Edgar Wallace, and called "Caught!" Archibald de Bear has written several smart lyrics for this piece, his co-poets being Leslie Haslem and Wal Pink, who is part-author of the libretto with Mr. de Courville.

Alfred Lester Ill.

We were sorry to find on revisiting 'Pins and Needles" a night or two ago that the droll Alfred Lester has been compelled to retire temporarily from the cast, by reason of indisposition, and his medical adviser counsels complete rest for a while. Mr. Lester's characters in this revue are being taken very cleverly by Alfred Austin and (mostly) by Jack Morrison. We all wish Alfred a speedy recovery.

Theatrical Managers' Association.

One of the most interesting events in the annals of this Association is to take place at the Royal Adelaide Galleries, Strand, on Thursday, June 16, when a special convocation of the whole of its members will be held to discuss at length the many difficulties with which both resident and touring managers are faced at the present time. This will be followed by a complimentary luncheon to the president, Mr. Tom B. Davis, at which practically every important manager in the kingdom has promised to be present.

Martin Harvey's Canadian Tour.

Sir John Martin Harvey, Lady Martin Harvey, Mr. and Mrs. Frank B. O'Neill and the Martin Harvey Company will, all being well, sail for home abroad the "Empress of France" this week and arrive at Liverpool on Wednesday next. They are all assured of an enthusiastic welcome home.

Advices are to the effect that business is still maintained at a brilliantly high level. On the re-visit to Toronto a capacity week was played with "The Only Way" at every performance, and during the second week of the stay, offering a mixed programme, Sir John was obliged to turn people away every night.

The distinguished actor addressed the Empire Club at Toronto on Thursday, April 28, and he also delivered a lecture to 4,000 students and teachers at Massey Hall, in the same city, his subject being "Shakespeare and 'Hamlet.'" The lecture was under the auspices of the Toronto Education Authority, and apparently created an enormous impression, Sir John coming in for what is described as "a great reception."

Mr. Frank B. O'Neill writes that his wife, who, as Miss Mary Gray, is a prominent member of the Martin Harvey Company, has had several opportunities of appearing as Mimi in "The Only Way" and Batty in "The Breed of the Treshams," and has acquitted herself commendably. Mr. O'Neill concludes a very interesting communication by saying: "We shall all be very glad of a holiday. It has been very strenuous."

Booking for the Garden Party.

The most important date of the London season is that of June 28, when the Theatrical Garden Party is due in the grounds of the Royal Hospital, Chelsea. The public are urged to support the event to the fullest extent, because it is one upon which the Actors' Orphanage, the profession's own charity, almost entirely depends. Tickets, price 2s., if purchased before the day, are on sale at "The Era" office.

C.S.G. Fancy Fair.

Novel features are promised at the Fancy Fair to be held on Tuesday next, May 31, at Caxton Hall in aid of the Catholic Stage Guild. Miss Daisy Ashford will provide another set of "Little Visiters" in the shape of a number of chickens reared by herself. There will also be on sale a pig given by the Cambridge University Experimental Farm, of which the brother of Miss Margaret Mackenzie, the secretary, is the head.

All the personages of the fancy fair will be present. There will be the Coster Fair Girl, the Lucky Dip Girl, and innumerable others. Lady Benson, who will have the Shakespeare Stall, will tell fortunes; Miss Hilda Trevelyan will preside in character over the Wendy Stall. Miss Sybil Arundale, Miss Norah Blaney, Miss Gwendoline Brogden, Miss Gwen Farrar, Miss Peggy O'Neill and Miss Tittell-Brune are among the large number of popular players who will officiate. In a corner of the hall Mr. Reginald Garland will run a ninepin court.

Over 500 tickets, we understand, have already been sold, and early application for the remainder is advisable. The fair will be opened by the Queen of Portugal at 3 o'clock, and Father Bernard Vaughan will speak. Tickets, price 1s., may be obtained at the door, or from the Secretary, 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C. 2.

Lady Bancroft's Wish.

The following touching letter has been received by Mr. C. I. Coltson, secretary of the Actors' Benevolent Fund:—"I send you a cheque for ten pounds. It is the beautiful request of my first manageress, Lady Bancroft, that her friends should give to the A.B.F. what they would devote to flowers. It is an exquisite and big-hearted thought, like the dear lady herself, so I respect her wishes.

"AN ACTOR."

Actors' Benevolent Fund.

At the Committee meeting of the A.B.F. held on May 12 and 19, the sum of £221 8s. 6d. was granted in relief, including emergency assistance. Fifty-six applications were considered, and of these 51 were assisted, irrespective of £70 13s. 6d. and £68 18s. 6d. granted in weekly allowances.

The Interlude Players.

The Rehearsal Company, with which Mr. Clive Currie was associated before the war, has been revived under the name of the "Interlude Players," and will give its first show in the grounds of the St. David's Home for Disabled Sailors and Soldiers, Castlebar Hill, Ealing, in aid of the new ward. The Players will present "A Midsummer Night's Dream," with Mr. Ion Swinley as Oberon, Miss Marjorie Gordon as Titania, Mr. Clive Currie as Bottom, Miss Flora Grey as Hermia, Miss Winifred Evans as Helena, and Mr. H. V. Tollemache as Théseus.

The Players will again present "The Dream" at the Margaret Morris Theatre, Chelsea, and on Sunday, June 26, they will give at the same place "Mrs. Dane's Defence," preceded by a new one-act play. Other plays in preparation include a new adaptation of "Nicholas Nickleby," "Mrs. Gorringe's Necklace," "One Summer's Day," and "The Taming of the Shrew," &c.

The Caledonians.

The Scottish Players at the Kingsway Theatre are making great plans to attend the Caledonian Ball on June 6 in full force—led, of course, by the author of their "Hunky Dory" in the garb of his Clan Macdonald.

New London Manageress.

Miss Ruby Kimberley's visit to Swindon Empire last week in "Eastern Nights" was a farewell one in her capacity as artist-manager. In August next, when a tour ends, she proposes to take up her residence in town and launch several new plays, foremost among them being "The Romance of a Night," a new musical comedy, and "Dancemania," a revue.

Marie Tempest.

Miss Marie Tempest and Mr. Graham Browne closed a remarkably successful and lengthy Australasian tour in New Zealand about the middle of last month. They are returning to England via America.

Orthopædic Hospital Matinée.

A new play in one act, entitled "Mother of Pearl," by Gertrude Jennings, in which Miss Marie Lohr, Miss Sydney Fairbrother, and Mr. Herbert Marshall will appear, will be included in the programme at the Orthopædic Hospital Matinée at the Winter Garden Theatre on Monday next. H.R.H. Prince Henry has promised to attend.

The Playwrights' Theatre.

A quintuple bill is promised at the "Afternoon of Little Plays," to be given by the Playwrights' Theatre on Friday afternoon at the Kingsway. They consist of "The Lamp Post," by Christopher Steele; "The Trap," by "Jonathan"; "Tipperary," by Honor M. Pulley; "Broken Down," by G. N. Clark; and "The Goat," by Dorothy Massingham.

In June the Playwrights present "East or West," by Hugh Dalrymple, preceded by "Bushido: The Soul of Japan," by M. A. Pogson. The autumn season of three matinées will start in September with an Oriental play entitled "The Blue Beard Touch."

A Conductor-Composer.

Mr. Merlin Morgan, the conductor at Daly's, has just finished the scores of two new comic operas, the libretto and lyrics of which are by Harold Simpson. Their respective titles are "Lolita" and "The Princess Passes." Mr. Morgan has now started on another big score for a Spanish piece.

Theatrical Wedding.

The marriage took place on Thursday of Mr. William Nigel Bruce, who is heir-presumptive of his brother, Sir Michael Bruce, Bart., and Miss Violet Pauline Shelton (professionally known as Miss Violet Campbell), daughter of the late Colonel Shelton, D.S.O. Many well-known stage people were present at the ceremony, which took place at Holy Trinity Church, Brompton, amongst them being Mr. Cyril Maude, the bride having appeared with him in the successful comedy, "Lord Richard in the Pantry."

Birmingham Lighting Restrictions.

Owing to the limited amount of fuel for the public services, the Birmingham Electricity Committee have been compelled to cut off the supply of current for power and lighting purposes between the hours of 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. In consequence, all theatrical matinées are cancelled, and there will be no afternoon cinema shows. Plays at the theatres will not start until after 7 p.m.

Luckily, at the Theatre Royal and the Prince of Wales one performance nightly is the rule this week. In the case of the Alexandra, where two performances a night are customary, the performances will start at 7.10 and 8.50. At the music halls some of the turns will be curtailed, but the usual complement of artists will be engaged.

Venerable Actor's Death.

The interment took place on Thursday last at Arnos Vale R.C. Cemetery, Bristol, of Mr. James J. Belverstone, who died the Saturday previous at the grand old age of 91 years, at Bristol, where he had resided for many years. The deceased gentleman was an actor in retirement, and was one of the pensioners of the Actors' Benevolent Fund. There was a great gathering of R.A.O.B.s, deceased having belonged to the Order for 63 years. Only the evening before his death he attended a Lodge meeting.

"Polly With a Past."

Cheerfully oblivious of the temporary depression in theatreland, Mr. Gilbert Miller's delightful comedy, "Polly With a Past," sails gaily along at the St. James's Theatre with Edna Best, Donald Calthrop, and the rest of the merry band of comedians. The hundredth performance will be reached on Friday, and there seems to be no reason why, if the coal strike is soon settled, Messrs. George Middleton's and Guy Bolton's amusing play should not continue for a long period to be, as now, one of London's most amusing entertainments.

Sir James Barrie's Loss.

Mr. Michael Llewellyn Davies, one of the two Oxford undergraduates drowned while bathing at Sandford, near Oxford, a few days ago, was a son of the late Mr. Arthur Llewellyn Davies and Mrs. Davies (the beautiful sister of Mr. Gerald du Maurier) who were adopted by Sir James Barrie after the death of their parents.

Mr. Davies was a brilliant scholar, and had shown promise of a great future. His brother, George, who was killed in action during the war, is said to have been the original of Peter Pan.

Back from Canada.

Mr. Bert Randall, formerly of the Lyceum Theatre and Empire, Leicester-square, has just arrived from Canada, where he has been playing the principal comedy parts for Messrs. Percy Hutchison and Walter Howard. Mr. Randall made a big hit on the Canadian tour, and was personally complimented by Mr. Driscoll, head of the Trans-Canada Theatres.

The First "Curate."

In referring to the death of the Rev. W. Truss, a famous prison chaplain, and described in some papers as "the original" of the Rev. Robert Spalding in "The Private Secretary," these journals fall into the old error of assuming that the late Sir Herbert Tree was the original representative of that comical curate. Tree was the first London player of the part—at the Princes, now the Prince of Wales's. The original Rev. Robert was Arthur Helmore, who played it in the pre-London performances, and is still going strong as a comedian and entertainer. Tree, of course, was followed by the late W. S. Penley at the old Globe.

Sketches From the States.

In addition to presenting a new American sketch called "Serving Two Masters," at the Empire, Newport, this week, Mr. Alexander Loftus tells us that he is preparing to produce another trans-atlantic specimen, which is called "A Touch in Time." And he has other plays and playlets in his gripsack.

Great Actress's Collection.

The beautiful furniture and delightful curios, pictures, books, theatrical prints, etc., of Ellen Terry's old-world house at 215, King's-road, Chelsea, are to be sold at auction by John Barker and Co., Ltd., next Tuesday at 12.30 sharp. What a chance for admirers of this great actress!

FINANCING "PINS AND NEEDLES."

GAIETY'S FIRST REVUE.

Thanks to the benevolence of a mysterious North-country gentleman, who has offered a gift of £20,000, Mr. Albert de Courville will shortly transfer "Pins and Needles" from the Royalty to the Gaiety, thus staging the first review to be played in the latter theatre.

A remarkable story was told to a Press Association representative yesterday in the manager's office of the Royalty by Mr. de Courville as to how this departure has become possible. "I had no idea of ever going to the Gaiety," said Mr. de Courville, "until one day recently a gentleman who has frequently been present at performances of 'Pins and Needles' told me he was very impressed with the show, and added that he would like to see it run during the summer.

"He then said he would guarantee me against loss if I would transfer it to a bigger theatre. I naturally thought he was joking when he offered me £20,000 for the purpose, but on finding that his first cheque for £10,000 had been honoured, I am prepared to do as he wishes, especially as I find it possible to get the Gaiety."

Mr. de Courville added that the gentleman had requested him not to disclose his name, but said that he was a North-country-man, elderly, very rich, and married. Newcomers to the show will be the Duncan Sisters, who are on holiday in England from America, and Miss Maisie Gay.

DEATH OF LADY BANCROFT.

Although a good many years have passed since Lady Bancroft, who died at Folkestone on Sunday, after a long and painful illness, at the age of 82, was one of the leading actresses of the Victorian stage, the lustre of her fame as a comedienne has been but little dimmed by the passing of time.

Marie Effie Wilton was the daughter of Robert Pleydell Wilton, who came of an old Gloucestershire family, and was originally intended for the church, but became a travelling actor. Born at Doncaster, she began her stage career as a child of five, acting children's parts in the provinces with her father. During her provincial engagements she also acted with Macready, Charles Dillon, Miss Glyn, and other "stars."

She played Juliet at twelve, and the Widow Melnotte, in "The Lady of Lyons," before she was fifteen years old; but it was not until 1856 that she came to London, where she appeared at the Lyceum as the boy in "Belphegor," Charles Dillon playing the title rôle. In the following year she appeared at the Haymarket, and in 1858 at the Strand, followed by appearances at the Adelphi and the St. James's.

It was at the old Strand Theatre that Marie Wilton achieved her first great success, winning fame in the early extravaganzas of H. J. Byron, and laying the foundations of her claim to be one of the greatest comedy actresses ever seen in London.

While fulfilling an engagement at Liverpool she first met Mr. S. B. Bancroft, and their marriage took place in 1867. Two years previously she, with H. J. Byron, entered on the management of the old Prince of Wales Theatre, which had been known as "The Dusthole," opening there with "A Winning Hazard" and "La Somnambula," a burlesque, in which she played Alissio. One day H. J. Byron read Tom Robertson's "Society" to her, and thought it wouldn't do, being so different from the plays in vogue, and containing the scene of "The Owls' Roost," which was "certain to bring the Press down on them." Bus Miss Wilton said: "Never mind!

[Photo Ellis and Walery.

THE LATE LADY BANCROFT.

Better be daring than dull!" "Society," produced in 1865, succeeded and paved the way to the brilliant Bancroft management. "Society" was followed by the series of comedies which included "Ours," "Caste," "Play," "School," and "M.P.," all written by T. W. Robertson.

Later she appeared as Jenny Northcott in "Sweethearts," Miss Haygarth in "The Vicarage," and Countess Zicka in "Diplomacy," also in revivals of "The School for Scandal" (Lady Teazle), "Money" (Lady Franklin), "Masks and Faces" (Peg Woffington), "London Assurance" (Pert), "An Unequal Match" (Hester Grazebrook).

In 1880 Squire Bancroft, hearing that Lord Kilmorey had brought the St. James's Theatre with the idea of establishing Hare and the Kendals in management, resolved on what was called "the most Napoleonic stroke of theatrical business." This was his purchase of the Haymarket lease.

After entirely rebuilding the auditorium, the theatre was opened with "Money." Although on the first night there was a disturbance owing to the abolishing of the pit, the revival proved a happy beginning.

For five years the Bancrofts acted here in adaptations from Sardou, in Pinero's "Lords and Commons," and revivals of former favourites, but on the completion of twenty years of management they decided to retire.

In 1894 she appeared in a revival of "Money," and two years later she again played Mary Netley in "Ours." Her last appearance was at the great Nellie Farren benefit at Drury Lane on March 17, 1898.

Lady Bancroft was a woman of great energy, and her abilities were not confined to acting and theatre management. She was joint author of "Mr. and Mrs. Bancroft On and Off the Stage," which appeared in 1888, and was the sole author of "A Riverside Story," "My Daughter," "A Dream," and "The Shadow of Noeme." She also wrote a play entitled "Weatherbound."

One of the best stories told of the famous actress relates to a holiday trip in the Engadine, which she and her husband took in their early married days. They noticed that they were constantly shadowed by a ruffianly-looking man, and they began to be both anxious and annoyed.

Lady Bancroft was seriously alarmed when one day the man began to gesticulate wildly and to contort his features as though he were about to have a fit. Suddenly his moustache fell off, he snatched his hat from his head, and stood revealed as her old friend, J. L. Toole.

Sir Squire Bancroft, who recently received a telegram from the King and Queen on the occasion of his eightieth birthday, was present at the last.

Lady Bancroft left written instructions that she should be buried according to the Protestant faith, and she also asked that no flowers should be sent to her funeral, but that the money which might have been spent on them should be forwarded to the Actors' Benevolent Fund.

The funeral will take place in London on Saturday.

CINEMA ACTORS' ORGANISATION.

JOINT MASS MEETING OF A.A. AND V.A.F.

The movement towards organising performers for the cinema was carried a step further on Sunday, when a joint mass meeting of members of the Actors' Association and the Variety Artists' Federation was held at the Prince of Wales Theatre. Mr. Albert Voyce (Chairman of the V.A.F.) presided.

An unfortunate incident occurred which necessitated the speakers addressing the meeting from the front row of the stalls. It would appear that for some unaccountable reason the hydraulic tank controlling the safety curtain had been emptied, and it was impossible for the curtain to be raised.

It will be remembered that at the joint mass meeting of the V.A.F. and A.A., held at the Ambassadors Theatre on April 10, the following resolution was passed:—

That this joint mass meeting of the A.A. and V.A.F. instruct its respective Executives to use every endeavour to organise all performers engaged in the making of moving pictures, and that a Joint Committee of the A.A. and the V.A.F. be at once formed to decide upon ways and means to this end, and that this Committee reports the result of same to a joint mass meeting to be held in a theatre mutually agreed upon on May 22, 1921.

Mr. Voyce stated that the V.A.F. had tried extremely hard to organise this particular section of the industry, and it had been found very difficult.

Delegates' Reports.

Mr. Frank Grey (special organising delegate for the Actors' Association) made his report, and informed the meeting that it had been proved that the V.A.F. and A.A. numbered among their members at least 50 per cent. of the regular workers who had been employed in "crowds" during the time he had been working as organiser.

This report was upheld by Mr. Dan O. Scott, who was acting in the above capacity on behalf of the V.A.F. He further stated that out of this number less than 10 per cent. were members of the Variety Artists' Federation, the rest being members of the A.A.

Both delegates agreed that most of the agents had been most helpful to them in their efforts to discover the percentage of union members, and one of the biggest agents had informed our representatives that at least 45 per cent. of the people on his books were members either of the A.A. or the V.A.F.

The Unions' Support.

Mr. Lugg was then called upon to address the meeting, and stated that the Actors' Association could only help the cinema "crowd" workers in direct ratio to the amount of help that they were prepared to give themselves.

Mr. Monte Bayly then spoke, and stated to the meeting that the Variety Artists' Federation were prepared to give the Actors' Association every possible assistance, morally and financially, if necessary, in order to aid them in their efforts to organise and obtain fair conditions for the cinema "crowd" workers. He pointed out that most of the artists engaged in the cinema industry appeared to be members of the A.A., especially the "stars," and he expressed the opinion that it was the natural function of the A.A. to organise this branch of the industry, and that the V.A.F. were prepared to leave it to the Actors' Association to undertake this work.

Invitation to I.K.M.A.

Mr. J. Scott-Leighton then proposed the following resolution, which was duly seconded by Mr. Barry Ono, of the V.A.F.:—

Whereas the Incorporated Kinema Manufacturers' Association having demanded that they will only negotiate with the A.A. and the V.A.F. provided that the conjoint membership of their respective unions be 25 per cent. of those employed as "crowd" workers, and whereas the reports from the A.A. and V.A.F. delegates prove that the composition of the "crowd" workers during the past three weeks has been 50 per cent. unionised workers, the I.K.M.A. be invited to attend a conference between the A.A. and the V.A.F. with reference to the drawing-up of a fair contract for "crowd" workers."

Upon the resolution being put to the vote it was carried unanimously.

Mr. J. Fisher White proposed a vote of thanks to the proprietor of the theatre which was duly seconded by a member of the V.A.F. and carried unanimously.

Valentine Memorial.

Mr. Fisher White also called attention to the books of "bricks" for the Valentine Memorial Pension Fund which were on sale at the theatre, and which the V.A.F. had very kindly agreed that those present should be asked to purchase.

Many of these books, valued at 2s. 6d. each, were sold, and Mr. White pointed out that there was nearly enough money in hand to allow for a second pension, and the moment there were sufficient funds a ballot of the entire Association would be taken in order to discover which members over the age of sixty should receive £3 per week for life from this Pension Fund.

Mr. Sydney Paxton then proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Albert Voyce for presiding, which was duly seconded by Miss Jessica Black and carried unanimously.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION MATTERS.

SECRETARY'S NOTES.

Manchester Area Delegate.

Members are requested to note that Mr. J. R. C. Hamilton has now altered his address to 23, Ducie-street, Oxford-road, Manchester, to which all communications should be addressed.

Delegate for the Preston Area.

Members are reminded that Mr. T. Veevers-Thompson has been duly elected by the Council to occupy the position of hon. organising delegate for the North Lancs., Preston, and district. His address is 24, Guildhall-street, Preston, and it is hoped that all members going to Preston will get into touch with Mr. Thompson, who, I am sure, will do everything in his power to place the best possible service of the A.A. at the disposal of members.

Valentine Memorial Fund.

The Association has now received the books of "bricks," which are valued at 2s. 6d., each book containing 30 bricks, and by the sale of these penny bricks it is hoped to raise sufficient money in time to grant pensions to all members of the Actors' Association upon reaching the age of 60 of £3 per week for the rest of their lives.

There is nearly sufficient money in hand for a pension to be granted, and as soon as the amount is complete, a ballot of the entire Association will be taken to discover who shall receive the first pension.

A.A. Athletic Club.

Many members have approached the secretary with a view to organising games both in London and companies travelling throughout the provinces. Will any members interested in the above suggestion kindly communicate with 32, Regent-street.

Protection Fund.

Members are notified that a special levy of 13s. having been duly passed by a ballot of the members, is being made on all members during 1921. The levy is payable at the rate of 6d. per week for six months, starting from March 14.

ALFRED LUGG, Secretary.

Friday's Council Meeting.

Minutes of Council meeting held May 20. Present:—Mr. J. Fisher White (in the chair), Messrs. F. B. J. Sharp, Howard Brenan, Frank Grey, Chas. R. Stone, Herbert Pearson, J. Scott Leighton, C. Hargrave Mansell, Murri Moncrieff, A. Harding Steerman, Sydney Paxton, Luke Forster, Alfred Lugg (secretary), Misses Lilian Braithwaite, Mary Jerrold, Kathleen Magee, Gladys Ffolliott, Renee Kelly, Lisa Coleman, Mme. Isabel Beresford, and Mrs. Saba Raleigh. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

The reports of the "Ways and Means," Legal and Nomination Committees were read and adopted.

Chairman's Letters.

The chairman read letters from Miss Olive Sparke, Mr. T. Beresford Innes, Mr. Robert Iempriere, Mr. Bertram Wallis, regretting non-attendance, and Miss Madge McIntosh tendering her resignation from the Council in view of a journey she proposed taking abroad.

Secretary's Letters.

Letters from Mr. Albert Voyce, Mr. Bowerman, of the T.U. Congress Parliamentary Committee, Mr. Louis Casson, Mr. Cyril Austen-Lee, Mr. Ernest Hendrie, Miss Phyllis Julian, Mr. Gerald Saffery, the Associated Actors and Artists of Africa, Mr. Richardson, and Mr. Frank Heath-Saunders, H. Rowland, Mr. Tom B. Davies, Mr. Ian, regretting his inability to be present.

Actors' Church Union Sale.

This matter was discussed, and members were asked to send along for the A.A. stall any toys, children's clothing, etc., to Mme. Isabel Beresford, c/o A.A.

Propaganda Meetings.

Members are again reminded that these meetings are held every Tuesday in the rooms of the Association at 3 p.m. The next meeting will take place on Tuesday next, May 31, at the above-mentioned hour, when it is hoped that as many members and non-members as possible will attend.

THE A.A. OF AFRICA.

PROPOSED "LOG" FOR CHORUS AND BALLET.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE ERA."

DEAR SIR,—We have received from the Associated Actors' and Artistes' of Africa the enclosed "log," which it is proposed to place before the managers for chorus and ballet.—Yours faithfully,

p.p. ALFRED LUGG,
General Secretary.

Actors' Association, 32, Regent-street, Piccadilly-circus, W. 1, May 23, 1921.

ASSOCIATED ACTORS AND ARTISTES OF AFRICA.

LOG APPLYING TO CHORUS AND BALLET.

1. SALARY.—Applying to all choristers and dancers, male and female, in grand opera, musical comedy, pantomime, comic opera, revue, and concert party:—

The minimum salary for Johannesburg for all male and female choristers and dancers who shall have had twelve months' theatrical experience shall be at the rate of £6 per week of six consecutive night performances. All extra performances and all matinées to be paid for at the rate of one-sixth of a weekly salary per each additional performance.

1a. That elsewhere throughout Africa the rate of pay be £6 10s. per week of six consecutive performances, and all extra performances or matinées be paid for at the rate of one-sixth of weekly salary per performance.

2. That all those who have not had twelve months' theatrical experience or shall serve for six months from that date at the rates existing immediately prior to this log coming into operation. Thereafter they shall receive the full rates as provided in this log.

3. BEGINNERS.—That the minimum rate of pay for beginners for the first six months for lady and gentlemen choristers and dancers be £4 10s. per week of six performances.

All extra performances and matinées to be paid for at the rate of one-sixth of a weekly salary per performance. Beginners taken on tour shall receive full chorister's salary.

3a. SUPERNUMERARIES.—That extra ladies and gentlemen (supernumeraries) be paid for at the rate of 5s. per performance of not less than six consecutive performances. If taken on tour, they shall receive full chorister's salary.

3b. The employer shall provide "make-up" in the case of supernumeraries.

4. TRAVELLING. — Whilst travelling on ship, if the employer provide passage, including bed and board, and whilst travelling on train between and , if the employer provide sleeping berths and meals, shall be paid half rates to those hereinbefore set out.

5. HOURS.—Hours of rehearsal may be from 10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m., and from 2.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m., and from 8.15 p.m. to 10 p.m., except upon days on which matinées are held, when there shall be no rehearsal.

ANNOUNCEMENTS OF THE ASSOCIATION OF TOURING MANAGERS.

THE ASSOCIATION OF TOURING MANAGERS.

President—Sir FRANK BENSON.
Vice-President—Sir J. MARTIN HARVEY.
Chairman—Mr. ROBERT MACDONALD.

To advance and protect the interests of Touring Theatrical Managers.

Full particulars as to membership will be sent on application.

Secretary and Offices,
Mr. LOUIS CASSON,
178, Shaftesbury Avenue, W.C. 2.
Phone—Regent 5485.

"ALL ABOARD."

New Edition of Musical Play, in Three Scenes, Book and Lyrics by Bert H. Delmar, Music by H. M. Wellman, Produced for the First Time in London at the Surrey Theatre, on Monday, May 23.

A Pen Slinger ..... Geo. Morrison
Detective Quicktouch ....Jack Murray
Miss Truly Hott ..... Eileen Bellamy
Marie Dresser ..... Myra Bernard
Silas P. Shooter ..... Jackson Moore
Mrs. Silas Shooter ..... Florrie Low
Pete Jackson ..... Jimmy Rich
Paul Shooter ..... Bud Richie
Irving Jazz ..... Edwin Ludlow
Miss Marigold London ..Florence Guest
Rev. Septimus Meek ..Gerald Morrison

At the Surrey Theatre, which has seemingly taken a new lease of life under the able management of Mr. H. S. Chambers, backed by the loyal co-operation of the acting manager, Mr. Reg. Crowe, Mr. Venom Swift presents this week, for the first time in London, a new and revised edition of his successful "All Aboard." What plot there was in the original show has practically vanished, and all that the audience is told is that Silas P. Shooter, an American dollar king, brings his son Paul over to England from the U.S. with the idea of him marrying Marigold London, an heiress, and apparently both parties object to this arrangement. What happens after his nobody seems to know—or care. "All Aboard" is described as a song show—a very apt description, too; it bounds with songs, grave and gay, dances of every description, and the richest of humour; and the audience on Monday revelled in it all.

Mr. Bud Richie as Paul is a raconteur of more than usual merit, and his patter and stories were very much appreciated. Miss Eileen Bellamy as Miss Truly Hott is a charming young artist with a vigorous personality, and in addition to some exceptionally neat dancing scored heavily with her rendering of "Come Back to Old Virginny," sung in a sweet, clear voice. A lot of hearty laughter was occasioned by the very humorous performance of Mr. Jimmy Rich as a coon servant, and he thoroughly deserved the great applause he received for his signing of "In Zululand," supported by the chorus. Another smart comedian was Mr. Jack Murray as a detective; he was responsible for the rendering of "Papers," a most original number, in which he was assisted by Miss Beliamy and Bud Richie, and his humorous song, "Everyone Calls Me Tarzan," provoked plenty of mirth. An admirable singer is Miss Florence Guest; she is possessed of a wonderful contralto voice, and she evoked much applause by her rendering of "Till the Sands of the Desert Grow Cold." Two other numbers of hers had a tumultuous reception. Mr. Jackson Moore was completely successful as Silas Shooter, and besides displaying genuine humour, sang with plenty of pathos an entirely new song, "Dear Old Dad." A most amusing novelty was the burlesque of how different nationalities would sing "Down on the Farm," given by the principal members of the company. A feature of "All Aboard" is the really exceptionally smart chorus, and their dancing of the pony trot was delightful to witness, and they did equally well with the Apache dance.

"AUNT MARIA."

Farcical Comedy, by Mrs. Bromley Taylor, produced at the Theatre Royal, Leamington, on May 23.

Mrs. Bromley Taylor's new farcical comedy, "Aunt Maria," was appreciatively received at Leamington Theatre Royal on Monday night, when it was presented by Mr. Cecil Barth and Mr. Grahame Herington. The piece is a rollicking burlesque on the thyroid gland treatment, and lends itself to possibilities of very successful development, Aunt Maria is an austere old spinster who falls a "victim" to her young nephew's scientific experiments in the form of rejuvenation. Youthful effervescence is the outcome of her transformation, and the once impossible aunt becomes still more impossible with her newly-found youth. Her escapades are responsible for much merriment, but when, ultimately, her sanity is really challenged, she "comes to earth," and is once again "Aunt Maria"—minus her acrimoniousness.

Miss Winifred Oughton, in the title rôle, used to advantage all the material provided in her part, as did Mr. Doan Gardiner as Tony Merivale, the experimenting nephew. The supporting members of the cast did justice to their respective parts, Miss Dorothy Hall as Genevieve realising to the full all the humour which her rôle provided.

"THE MAN WHO CAME BACK" AT NOTTINGHAM.

The thrilling episodes in "The Man Who Came Back" are well depicted by the company of Messrs. Charles B. Cochran and William A. Brady, who are this week at the Theatre Royal. Mr. Geo. Ricketts plays Thomas Potter with considerable force and alertness. An effective embodiment of Isabel Gaynes comes from Miss Lallie Forsyth, and the two Cabaret Girls, Marcelle and Olive, have vigorous interpreters in Miss Grace Sweeting and Miss Shirley Keats respectively. Valuable help is rendered by Mr. Geo. Manship, Mr. Clifton Boyne, Mr. V. L. Julian, and Mr. Charles Childerstone.

BOOKING AGENTS' AND AUTHORS' FEES.

An instance of the methods which theatrical booking agents employ in their business is furnished by the "News Sheet" of the Bribery and Secret Commissions Prevention League.

"A theatrical company had been asked to accept less than its customary percentage of takings, and the offered terms were refused because of the high royalties which had to be paid to the playwright, based on a return from the theatre. Thereupon it was suggested that the company could obtain from the manager of the theatre 'a skeleton return' showing that the receipts were substantially less than in reality, and it was asserted that recently another company which had been playing to about £300 had obtained a skeleton return for royalties of £100 gross."

No action could be taken in the matter, as the transaction was not completed, but there is a definite admission that the fraud had been carried out by another company at the agent's suggestion. The case gives added justification to the boycott of the booking agent by the Association of Touring Managers.

SUNDERLAND'S SUCCESSFUL SEASON.

Mr. Robert Courtneidge appears to have backed a winner when he took a provisional lease of the Victoria Hall, Sunderland, for certain periods of the year. His first season, one of four successive weeks, concluded on Saturday last, when the hall was occupied by the O'Mara Opera Company, as it had been during the previous days of the week.

The patronage extended during the month amply proves that good companies with good material can rely on being well supported on Wearside. Throughout the period there have been good houses, notwithstanding the fact that the coal strike and the consequent depression in many industries due to it has hit Sunderland very hard. Mr. Courtneidge promises a good round of plays for his next season in about a month or so's time, and the reopening of the hall as a theatre will be awaited with pleasant anticipations.

"THE GARDEN OF ALLAH" AT BIRMINGHAM.

This Wylie-Tate production, which is at the Royal, Birmingham, this week, is splendidly realistic in its scenery and setting. The company boasts Miss Nell Carter as Domini Enfilden, Mr. Henry Hallat as Count Anteoni, and Mr. Hugh C. Buckler in the rôle of Boris Androvsky. Each of them contributed to the impressive atmosphere of the piece, in which Messrs. D. Muir Little (Captain Trevignac), Alec Mayhew (Batouch), Alfred Hayzen (Hadj), Chas. Aldred (Father Roubier), Miss Olive Grant (Suzanne), and Miss Lalor Sindalli (dancer) were also capable representatives.

"THE MAN FROM TORONTO" AT MANCHESTER.

Messrs. Douglas Millar and F. Clive Ross's company have the distinction of being the last to appear at that historic theatre, the Theatre Royal, before it goes over to the cinema. The attraction is a sound one, though not new to local playgoers; it is "The Man From Toronto," with Miss Iris Hoey in the rôle of Mrs. Calthorpe. The piece is most engagingly played, and Miss Hoey has the support of Messrs. Edgar B. Payne, Rex O'Malley, and Victor Boggetti, and Misses Adelaide Burt, Wyn Richmond, Amy Wood, Irene Ross, and Vera Boggetti.

"LORD RICHARD IN THE PANTRY" AT OXFORD.

The first visit to Oxford of the great comedy success, "Lord Richard in the Pantry," drew crowded and most enthusiastic houses. Mr. Thos. C. Dagnall's company included Connie Ediss in her original part as the Cook. She had a most enthusiastic reception, and played with all her accustomed skill and due restraint. As Lord Richard, Victor Stanley gave a very clever performance, and kept the fun going at a good pace; Percy Foster, as Captain "Tubby," was in excellent form; while George Shelton made an ideal butler. Grace Lane played with grace and ease as Sylvia Gayford, and Hilda Travers was duly serious as Evelyn Lovejoy. Nellie Bowman's laugh as Gladys proved infectious, and her gigantic capacity for eating pudding kept the house in roars of laughter. One of the best comedies seen here for some time was the general opinion.

"THE VOICE FROM THE MINARET" AT GLASGOW.

Great pleasure is derived from the visit to the King's, Glasgow, of Miss Marie Lohr's company with the Globe Theatre success, "The Voice from the Minaret." Admirably acted throughout by a strong company, which includes Mr. Alfred Gray, who gives a masterly impersonation of Andrew Fabian, while Miss Mary Griffiths effectively portrays Mrs. Fabian. The part of Miss Rodd is cleverly played by Miss Edith Lester Jones, Miss Susan Claughton as Lady Caryll is praiseworthy, and the Seline of Mr. Henry Marshall, and the Sir Leslie Caryll of Mr. Bellende Powell are also excellent impersonations. Great care has been taken in staging the play.

"THE YOUNG PERSON IN PINK" AT BIRMINGHAM.

This entertaining comedy is at the Prince of Wales' Theatre, Birmingham, this week. Mr. Arnold Reynor, as Lord Stevenage, made a modest scion of nobility, serving thereby to provide a very proper contrast with the ingénue who has lost her memory. As the "Coincidence," Miss Marjorie St. Aubyn was first-rate, perfectly naïve, and therefore pleasing. Miss Cynthia Fane's Lady Tonbridge was an admirable study, and as the "clergyman's" widow Miss Frances Waring gave a capital performance of low life aspiring to high life. Miss Theresa Osborne was quietly effective as Lady Sarah, and Miss Adah Dick, as the cattle-bearing Miss Winch, was also good. Miss Jane Smith presented an excellent little sketch of the balloon woman, and as a curtain raiser gave her own character monologue very successfully.

"REFLECTIONS" AT GLASGOW.

Mr. George Shurley's latest production, "Reflections," which is at the Empire, Glasgow, this week, is one of the most attractive revues he has ever staged. The principal comedian, Mr. Jack Gallagher, is seen at his best, while Miss Ouida Macdermott in another leading part is as vivacious and charming as ever. Others in the cast are Miss Fanny Wallace, the Shurly Bubbly Girls, &c., Messrs. Stanley Lauri, Paul England, George Manton, &c.

"PERI, THE SLAVE OF LOVE," AT LIVERPOOL.

A first visit to the Royal Court Theatre of "Peri, the Slave of Love," gave much satisfaction on Monday evening. The comic opera is cleverly arranged, and full of fun. In Mr. Nevill Graham's company were Miss Winifred Roma, who sang and acted the name part with considerable skill; Miss Winifred Hare, as Badoura, and Miss Zoe Corner, in the rôle of Amina, were quite good; much amusement was caused by Mr. Sinclair Cotters's Ali; and others in the cast were Bernard Knowles (King of Bagdad) and M. Klit-Gaarde (Omar).

Repertory at Leicester.

Before the final fall of the curtain on Saturday evening last at the Theatre Royal, Leicester, where the Carlton Wallace Repertory Company have been staying for a short season, Miss Evelyn Carleton and members of the company were presented with some beautiful flowers and presents.

Mr. Wallace, in a few well-chosen words, thanked, on behalf of his company and himself, all the friends and admirers for the lovely gifts, also the staff for the way they had worked during his short stay at the Royal. He added that he hoped to be amongst them again on some future occasion.

Liverpool Liveliness.

"You can't beat old Sol, but you can draw level," was a remark made by Mr. W. W. Kelly last Monday night as he surveyed a full house at the Liverpool Shakespeare, the magnet being Wilfred Shine in "The Partners," young Vincent Douglass' successful play. "Shine in versus Sol out," murmured the ubiquitous "Era" man in reply. "Yes!" replied W. W., "and honours easy."

Successful Repertoire.

The Welfitt-Gray Company concluded a very successful three weeks' repertoire season at the Royal County Theatre, Reading, on Saturday last, in the course of which they have staged an extensive variety of popular plays. Mr. Cecil Gray and Miss Ann Welfitt have taken the lead in all the plays, and have been exceedingly well received.

A Carl Rosa Wedding.

The marriage took place on the 18th inst. of Mr. W. Martin How and Miss Dorothy Macready, a great granddaughter of the famous actor of the Victorian period. Both bridegroom and bride are well-known members of the Carl Rosa Opera Company. As the newly wedded couple left the Chapel Royal, Savoy, they had to walk under an archway of music rolls held over their heads by friends who were present at the ceremony.

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NOTES AND NEWS OF TOURING PLAYS.

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H.M. THEATRE. — P., The Robert Arthur Theatres Co.; A. M., Mr. H. Adair Nelson. — Vaudeville season under the direction of the Tivoli, Aberdeen, Ltd., "The Great Raymond," illusionist, supported by specially selected company.

PALACE. — P., The Tivoli, Aberdeen, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. A. Lamont.—Revue, "Ta Ta, Bella!"

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ACCRINGTON.

NEW HIPPODROME.—R. M., Mr. Donald O. Clark; Mus. D., Mr. J. H. Jackson. — A popular attraction is presented here in Mr. Allan Milton and company in the farcical comedy, "All In Good Time." Mr. Milton, who is the author, is a native of Accrington, and is having a most cordial reception in the part of Colin Price.

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ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P. & M., Mr. Chas. Revill; A. M., Mr. Chas. Revill, junr.; B. M., Mr. Jno. Revill.—Messrs. Macdonald & Young's company is revisiting this theatre with the London success, "The Naughty Wife." The tour is under the direction of Messrs. Lionel Bute and Frank Bell.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. W. H. Brodahead & Son; G. M., Mr. H. Winstanley; A. M., Mr. Jno. Boyle.—The Arthur G. Hart Productions present here the comedy revue, "The Candy Girl," in which notable players are Bobbie Burns, popular comedian; Bert Vernon, revue artist; and Nancy Cooke, comedienne.

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ATTERCLIFFE.

PALACE.—L., Messrs. Walker and Bennett; G. M., Mr. Arthur R. Walker; A. M., Mr. Edwin F. Gaunt; Mus. D., Mr. B. Lewis Bourke.—An attractive programme is contributed to by the Kuba Ladies' Quartette in a high-class vocal and instrumental act; Jack Barty, the burly burlesquer; The Lizette Trio, in a smart acrobatic pot-pourri act; Gicardo, the clever backward juggler; Lillian Gordon, Scottish contralto; and Rose and Wold, comedy wire act. (In connection with this turn wire-walking competitions are held at each performance, for which valuable prizes are given.)

BIRKENHEAD.

ARGYLE THEATRE.—Sole P. & M., Mr. D. J. Clarke; A. M., Mr. H. O'Neill; Mus. D., Mr. A. Workman.—The popular comedian Fred Kitchen, assisted by Miss Gladys Horridge, is a centre of attraction, and a fine combination includes Nellie Wigley, comedienne; Frank Le Dent, comedian; The Seven Gulliver Girls, in a dance and vocal melange; Joe Marcus and Tony Mariani, wise fools; Rene Ralph, with dainty songs; George Wilbey, impressionist; and Brown's Royal Bioscope

HIPPODROME.—Sole P. & M., Mr. D. J. Clarke; A. M., Mr. Chas. Eastwood; Mus. D., Mr. J. Whitelock.—Mr. Bransby Williams and his dramatic company terminate a month's season here this week. On Monday the romantic play, "The Red Lamp," was produced with Mr. Williams as Demetrius.

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BLACKBURN.

THEATRE ROYAL. — P., Northern Theatres, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Wm. Robinson; G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling; R. M., Mr. Stanley Hope.—H. Cecil Beryl's company, in his successful revival of the popular musical comedy, "The Lady Slavey." The Northern Theatres, Ltd., are trying the experiment of a twice-nightly show.

PALACE THEATRE.—P., Macnaghten Circuit, Ltd.; M., Mr. Arthur Burton; Mus. D., Mr. Edward Bartle.—Tom Gott, who talks a bit and sings a bit; Paul Witt and May Stevens, entertainers; Two Cures, coster kids; Radford and Russell, musical speciality; James Edison, who sings, &c.; El. Ray, ventriloquist; Edgar Curtis, Lilliputian wonder.

PRINCES THEATRE.—P., Mr. E. H. Page; M., Mr. A. Hargreaves.—J. O'Brien's company, in a musical burlesque, "Girl o' Mine."

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BURNLEY.

VICTORIA.—P., Victoria Opera House Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. W. A. Buckstone.—Denville's stock company are continuing a successful run with "The Coastguard's Daughter."

EMPIRE.—P., Victoria Opera House Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. W. A. Buckstone.—The Anglo-Scotch Revue Co. present "What a Night!"

PALACE.—P., Burnley Palace and Hippodrome, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. A. Williams.—The Gladiators, in "Art in Athletics"; T. E. Finglass, coon delineator; A. Astill, mimic and ventriloquist; F. H. Fox, character comedian; Maple and May, the fellows with a goat; F. Howarth, instrumentalist; Geo. Lee, comedian.

Boots, The Chemists, 90, St. James-street.

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BURSLEM.

HIPPODROME.—P., Mr. P. Collins; M., Mr. J. Johnson.—Walter Saltoun and Aimee Grattan-Clyndes present "Seven Nights in London."

Boots, The Chemists, 28-30, Queen-street.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.

OPERA HOUSE.—P., Exors. of H. G. Dudley Bennett (deceased); Licensee & Business Executrix, Mrs. H. G. Dudley Bennett; R. M., Mr. John H. Stevenson.—Clarence Hurst presents the light comedy, "French Leave," featuring Mr. Aubrey Fitzgerald as Corporal Sykes.

Boots, The Chemists, 161, High-st.; 1, Lichfield-st.; 154, Station-st.; 29, Borough-rd.

BUXTON.

OPERA HOUSE.—P., Buxton Gardens Co., Ltd.; Sec. & G. M., Mr. F. A. Hastings; Mus. D., Mr. G. F. Burgiss.—Seymour Hicks presents "Broadway Jones."

HIPPODROME AND CINEMA HOUSE. —L. & M., Mr. Allan Milton; R. M., Mr. James Pilkington; Mus. D., Mr. Reg Goddard.—Romeo and Rip, expert dancing, singing, and ventriloquism; pictures, &c.

THE PICTURE HOUSE.—Sole P., Mr. Allan Milton; Mus. D., Miss E. L. Mainwood, G.S.M.—Afternoons, 2.15 to 5; evenings (continuous), 6.30 to 10.30; Sats. (continuous), 2.15 to 10.30 p.m.

Boots, The Chemists, 46-50, Spring-gardens.

CAMBRIDGE.

NEW THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.; R. M., Mr. P. H. Adams; Mus. D., Mr. T. Gilby Briggs.—T. C. Wray's Production (T. C. Wray, Ltd.) in "The Blue Lagoon."

PLAYHOUSE.—P., Cambridge Picture Playhouse, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Geo. Haddon.—The Magpie Concert Party in popular selections; Dorothie Smith, contralto; and pictures.

Boots, The Chemists, 31, Petty Cury; 6, Market-hill; 86, Mill-road.

CANNOCK.

HIPPODROME.—L., Mr. B. Kennedy; M., Mr. H. Elliman; Mus. D., Mr. A. Thompson.—A variety bill includes Les Clasiques, Ivy de Verne, Jack Patterson, Nixon, Linda A. Arthur, Harry Mann, Fay and Foy, and the Gordon Brothers.

CHELTENHAM.

THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—L., Mr. Robert Redford; G. M., Mr. H. Oswald Redford; Mus. D., Mr. H. Teague.—Cheltenham Operatic and Dramatic Society produce "The Rivals," Mon., Wed., Fri., and "The Man from Blankleys" Tues., Thurs., and Sat.

Boots, The Chemists, 129-130, High-street; 189, High-street.

COATBRIDGE.

THEATRE ROYAL. — P., Coatbridge Entertainers, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. W. Sowerby; Mus. D., Miss Frances Heath.—The Bouncing Dillons, comedy athletes; Nina and Nora, speciality artists; Andrew Wardrop, baritone; Matheson and Gow, comedy duo; Carrie Shand, entertainer at piano; Le Ness, speciality act; Jean Schwiller, musical scena.

COVENTRY.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE. — P., Exors. late H. G. Dudley Bennett (decd.); L., Mrs. H. G. Dudley Bennett.—J. Bannister Howard's Co. are appearing here in "The Silver King."

HIPPODROME.—P., Coventry Hippo. Co., Ltd.; M., Mr. G. E. Wright; Mus. D., Mr. B. Parkes.—Charles Austin heads the bill here. Others contributing are May B. Brilliant, in her own originalities; W. G. Watts, coon delineator; Harland and Rollison, comedy musicians; Geo. Calver, voice manipulator; and Barnes Bros. and West, Comedy club jugglers.

Boots, The Chemists, 9-10, Broadgate.

DEVONPORT.

HIPPODROME.—M., Mr. E. E. Harper. —The popular entertainers, Haig Bros. and Ryan are a fine star attraction, their self-accompanied individual and concerted numbers being extremely good; Harry Gunn, the popular comedian, goes "great guns" in a trio of breezy songs; La Fleche poses gracefully in some charming art studies; Corn and Neil are a couple of amusing comedy acrobats and burlesque dancers; Donaldson Weedon and Co. have a diverting sketch, entitled "The Hunter's Dream"; Will H. Fox has some amusing comedy piano business; and Pan and Girls are seen to advantage in an acrobatic and dancing novelty.

DEWSBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; R. M., Mr. J. Herbert Asquith; Mus. D., Mr. J. Field.—Messrs. Hero Hathaway and Mr. Vivian A. Baron's Repertoire Company present: Monday and Tuesday, "The Lion and the Mouse"; Wednesday and Thursday, "The Gamblers"; Friday and Saturday, "The Daughters of Men."

EMPIRE.—P., Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; G. M., Mr. Geo. E. Smith; R. M., Mr. E. J. Jackett; Mus. D., Mr. E. G. Summerfield—The Five Jocks, comedy vocal dancing scena; Tom Goode, novel Tyrolean comedian; Marie Aston, contralto vocalist; George Hyam, comedian; Les Gravettas, impressionists; Pier and Barr, dancing speciality; Les Bastiens, comedy acrobats.

Boots, The Chemists, 38, Market-place.

DONCASTER.

GRAND. — P., Palace Theatre (Doncaster), Ltd.; R. M., Mr. A. E. Dobney.—A. D. Robbins (Canadian) and company, the cycle tamers; De Basse, with his piano accordion; The Grays, in songs and tableaux; Bros. Obo, laughing comedians; Reilly, ventriloquist; Mark Rivers, vaudeville artist; Cowper Bros., comedy jugglers.

Boots, The Chemists, 70-71, Frenchgate.

DOVER.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. S. W. Winter; R. M., Mr. C. Taylor Lawson; M. C., Mr. W. Medhurst.—Mrs. Kimberley and Frank Liston's company in the musical comedy dramatic play "Tatters," and Madam Walker's "Little Treasures," in songs, dances, comedy school scene, &c.

KING'S HALL (Pictures).—L., Harry Day Amusements; R. M., Mr. Robert Fisher.—The Forders, in cameo comedies, "Peggy Pearl and a Pierrot," and "The Coster Courtship."

Boots, The Chemists, 11, Cannon-street.

DUNDEE.

KING'S.—P., Dundee Theatres, Ltd.; M. D. & L., Mr. W. Firth; D. & M., Mr. J. H. Oakden; Mus. D., Mr. Wm. Hartley.—Mr. Harry Day's "Spangles" is presented here this week. The principal merry-maker is George Clark, who is ably supported by Isabelle Dillon, Walter Newman, Frank Major, Hilda Newsome, Isabel Guidici, Jose Howard, The Syncopated Jazz Five, Andree Claire, and Pietro and Anna Cuka. A largely augmented orchestra is under the direction of Vere Harker.

KINNAIRD.—P., Messrs. Hamilton Bros.; M., Mr. Victor Hamilton; Mus. D., Mr. H. E. Loseby.—An excellent entertainment here comprises selections by the grand orchestra under the direction of Mr. H. E. Loseby; grand organ selections by Mr. C. H. Millers; and pictures.

Boots, The Chemists, 14, Reform-street.

EASTBOURNE.

DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—L. & M., Messrs. Murray King & Clark; G. M., Mr. Douglas Gordon; A. M., Mr. George E. Godwin; Mus. D., Mr. F. Seymour.—The Eastbourne Amateur Operatic and Dramatic Society in "A Pair of Silk Stockings" and "Les Cloches de Corneville."

PIER THEATRE. — M., Mr. H. Owen Taylor; Mus. D., Mr. E. W. Peilgen.—Mr. Claude Beerbohm's company, including Miss Christine Silver, Mlle. Eugenia Ratmirova, and Mr. Murray Carrington in "The Fold."

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — M. D., Mr. Sidney W. Winter; M., Mr. H. Raymond; Mus. D., Mr. W. H. Ash.—Mr. E. G. Norman's company in "My Old Dutch."

DEVONSHIRE PARK.—M., Mr. E. A. Brown.—Daily concerts by the orchestra, under the direction of Captain H. G. Amers. On Saturday evening special concert by M. Benno Moiseiwitsch, pianist.

Boots, The Chemists, 14-16, Sussex-gardens; 6, Seaside.

GAINSBOROUGH.

KING'S THEATRE. — L., Mr. Arthur Carlton; R. M., Mr. J. H. Stear; Mus. D., Mrs. E. E. Leaning.—Messrs. J. & A. Young present the topical revue, "All Hands on Deck."

Boots, The Chemists, 30, Market-place.

GLOUCESTER.

HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. The Gloucester Hippodrome Co.; Booking M., Mr. Edward.—Mr. Joe Morrison presents "The Dream Girl."

Boots, The Chemists, 139, Westgate-street; 94-95, Northgate-street.

GRIMSBY.

PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE.—M. D., Counr. J. H. Curry; A. M., Mr. S. Hawdon; Mus. D., Mr. J. Bingley.—Miss Phyllis Neilson-Terry and company, including Charles Garry as Svengali, are appearing in "Trilby."

PALACE THEATRE.—M., Counr. F. V. Walford; A. M., Mr. H. Surfleet; Mus. D., Mr. T. Stevens.—Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Levy's company in "Happy Man." Miss Haidee Royston is the principal dancer; Jack Harrison, chief comedian; Madge Rockliffe and Lillian Allen, vocalists, supported by a strong chorus.

Boots, The Chemists, 108, Cleethorpe-road.

HITCHIN.

BLAKE'S THEATRE.—P., Blake Bros. (Theatres), Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Will Rolston; Mus. D., Mr. L. G. Shrive.—Lynn and Lyndd, in a musical speciality; and pictures.

PLAYHOUSE.—P., Hitchin Playhouse, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. R. A. Brown; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Baker.—Jack and Tommie, the original Service duo; George Prince, crazy comic; F. V. St. Clair, O.B.E., in song and monologue; and pictures.

IPSWICH.

HIPPODROME.—P., Mr. E. H. Bostock; M., Mr. R. Hendry; Mus. D., Mr. Morphy.—Penrose and Whitlock, gramophonists; Harry Atkinson, comedian; Piatti, Italian comedian; Fred Keeton, comedian; the Whitbys, burlesque Indian scena; the Agulecos, novelty show; Imperial Trio.

Boots, The Chemists, 22, Tavern-street; 52, Westgate-street.

KEIGHLEY.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Francis Laidler; M., Mr. J. Austin Walshaw; Mus. D., Mr. W. Lupton.—Leon Vint presents "Three Weeks." The cast includes Kathleen Hernion as Sonia, and Herbert Mansfield as Paul.

Boots, The Chemists, 58, Cavendish-street.

MIDDLESBROUGH.

EMPIRE.—P., Empire Palace of Varieties, Middlesbrough, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. William Bastiman; A. M., Mr. Gerald Spencer; Mus. D., Mr. Arthur Wilson.—Messrs. Maris and Stella are presenting the musical comedy burlesque, "Oh, I!" A strong company includes The Bros. Hanaway as chief comedians.

HIPPODROME.—P., North of England Cinema Co.; G. M., Mr. W. S. Gibson; R. M., Mr. Frank E. Parker; Mus. D., Mr. H. J. Waldron.—A smart vaudeville turn is provided here this week by Napoli, the rag-time violinist.

Boots, The Chemists, 17, Corporation-road.

MORECAMBE.

ROYALTY.—Sec. & M., Mr. F. Morphet.—Mr. Keith Kennedy and his company, including Miss Betty Fairfax, are here this week in "Baby Mine" and "Up in Mabel's Room," the latter being produced for the first time out of London.

NORTHAMPTON.

OPERA HOUSE.—Sole P., Mr. Milton Bode; B. M., Mr. Jack H. Turner.—Cecile Barclay and Rupert Lister and their repertoire company, playing "Diana of Dobson's" on Monday and Tuesday; "Roxana" on Wednesday and Thursday; and "The Joan Danvers" Friday and Saturday, preceded each evening by "Hoggmanay."

NEW THEATRE.—G. M., Mr. Percy H. Gallagher; Mus. D., Mr. Lawrie Owen; S. M., Mr. Fred Murray.—Fred Karno's company, in the latest version of "Mumming Birds," with Jimmy Russell as the Saucy Boy, and Cyril Cooke as the Swell Inebriate. Other turns: Marion Hathaway, contralto vocalist; Frank and Elsie, artistic dancers; Fred Stafford; Two Boyds, &c.

Boots, The Chemists, 6, Gold-street.

NORTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. Stanley Rogers; G. M., Mr. Horace Lee; A. M., Mr. Sydney Hellyer; M. D., Mr. John Sutherland.—Mr. Lloyd Clarance's Co. in "From the Land of Silence" and "A Doll's House."

BOROUGH THEATRE.—P., Messrs. Thompson and Collins; G. M., Mr. G. F. Hill; R. M., Mr. James Johnson; M. D., Mr. Cecil Lavender.—Mr. Frank Foster, operatic tenor; The Yelson Trio, gymnasts; and pictures.

Boots, The Chemists, 15-17, Saville-street.

NORWICH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Messrs. Bostock and Fitt; M., Mr. Hy. Furnival; M. D., Mr. S. A. Perman.—G. Carlton Wallace's repertory company with Miss Evelyn Carlton.

HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. Bostock and Fitt.—Varieties, Vasco, Jack Williams Co. in "A Sister to Assist 'Er," Laurance Glen, Violet Levy, Larry Lewis, Charlie and Irene Vesty, Daring Dinnies.

SPRING GARDENS.—P., Mr. Horace Rose.—"Masks and Faces."

THATCHED PICTURE HOUSE.—P., Messrs. Bond and Sons; M., Mr. G. Starky.—J. Alexander's Grand Opera Singers, Olga Morselli.

ELECTRIC CINEMA THEATRE.—P., F. H. Cooper's, Ltd.; M., Mr. H. Rinder.—Nell and Braddy Shaw, Jack Allen.

THEATRE DE LUXE.—P., Cinema Theatres, 1908; M., Mr. C. E. Littlebury.—Miss Allthorpe.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—P., F. H. Cooper's, Ltd.; M., Mr. G. Harrison, Geo. Simpson.

Boots, The Chemists, 38, London-street, Brigg-street, 6, Goat-lane, 22, Magdalen-street.

OXFORD.

NEW THEATRE.—P., The Oxford Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. & S., Mr. S. C. Dorrill; Asst. M., Mr. W. F. Smith; Mus. D., Mr. C. F. Trevor.—As the attraction for the latter part of the "Eights Week," Messrs. James B. Fagan and H. M. Harwood are presenting "The White-Headed Boy" for six nights here, with a matinée on Saturday. Starring in the cast are Sara Allgood, Arthur Sinclair, and Maire O'Neill.

Boots, The Chemists, 1, Queen-st.; and 120, St. Aldates, Carfax.

PAISLEY.

THEATRE.—Sole P., Mr. E. H. Bostock; M., Mr. Harry W. Pinchon; Mus. D., Mr. Bert W. Stephens.—Mr. Thomas F. Convery presents his comedy revue, "Wait a Moment."

RINK PICTURE AND VARIETY PALACE.—Sole P., Mr. E. H. Bostock; M., Mr. D. W. Reid; Mus. D., Mr. Felix Hamilton.—The Arnott Quarette, in a vocal, musical, and dancing act; Neil Melvin, Scotch comedian; Devola and Rex, equilibrists; and pictures.

PLYMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M. D., Mr. Jas. Glover; R. M., Mr. W. F. Crowe. — Sir Harry Lauder and first-class variety programme.

REPERTORY THEATRE.—L., Messrs. King and Parry.—Musical comedy, "The Girl in the Taxi." The company of forty includes Mr. W. E. Matthews and Miss Rosalind Chard; and Mr. Benedict Thurz conducts the orchestra.

GRAND THEATRE.—P., Messrs. King & Parry.—French costume drama, "The King of Crime." Mr. Beckett Bould as Roujarre, and Miss Cynthia M. Marshall as Henriette.

Boots, The Chemists, 100a, Old Town; 1, George-street.

RAMSGATE.

PALACE THEATRE.—Under the direction of the freeholder, Mrs. Reeve Sanger; R. M., Miss L. M. Bridges; M. D., Mr. A. Williamson.—To-day (Wednesday) the Carl Rosa Opera Co. are presenting "Madame Butterfly" (matinée), and "Il Trovatore" (evening). To-morrow Mr. Fred Terry and Miss Violet Farebrother appear in "Henry of Navarre."

Boots, The Chemists, 20-24, Harbour-st.

REDDITCH.

PALACE.—R. M., Mr. William Howgate; Mus. D., Mr. Gus Heck.—Mr. Jack Field's Co. presents "Miles of Smiles."

Boots, The Chemists, 3, Evesham-street.

ROTHERHAM.

HIPPODROME.—P., Rotherham Hippodrome, Ltd.; M. D. & G. M., Mr. Geo. E. Smith; R. M., Mr. Chas. Danton; Mus. D., Mr. A. E. Breakwell.—Heading an exceptionally fine variety programme this week is Chas. R. Whittle in his latest successes; Stan Kavannagh and Co., in his sensational juggling act is also well placed; whilst other intersting items are provided by O'Wray and O'Dare in burlesque comedy; Chevat and Adar, vaudeville artists; The McLean Twins, comedi-ennes and dancers; Jack Kennedy, in vocal efforts; and Erne Warsaw in his satirical myth, "Pan and Pandora," supported by Miss Evelyn Brewster.

Boots, The Chemists, 10-12, High-street, and 8, Bridegate.

SALFORD.

PALACE.—P., Salford Palace, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Alan Young; G. M., Mr. Bert Vasco; A. M., Mr. Horace Cocks.—Alex. D. Macfarlane presents "Short and Sweet."

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. Wm. Hy. Broadhead and Son; R. A. M., Mr. Fred Barnardo. — Gus Harris, Gotham Comedy Quartette, Two Mazinis, Mabel Costello, The Saldos, Rich Taylor and Partner; Haley's Komets.

Boots, The Chemists, 277-279, Chapel-street; 95-97, Regent-road; 404, Regent-road; 191, Eccles New-road.

SHEFFIELD.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. John Hart; G. M. & T., Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont; Mus. D., Mr. A. Green.—Reginald Berkley's sparkling light comedy, "French Leave," is presented here by Mr. Clarence Hurst's company, which includes Mr. M. R. Morand, who gives an excellent performance as Brig.-General Root; Mr. Charles Groves, in the comedy part of Corporal Sykes; Miss Mary Byron, a charming Mlle. Juliette; Mr. Bert Murray (Rifleman Jenks); Mr. Reginald Dane (Capt. Glenister); George de Warfaz (Jules Marnier); Mr. Reginald Denham (Lieut. Graham); and Miss Freda Gerrard (Madame Dennaux).

THEATRE ROYAL.—M. D., Mr. John Hart; G. M. & T., Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont; A. M., Mr. Maurice Mahoney; Mus. D., Mr. H. Westnedge.—Max Allen and Edwin T. Heys' company are on a return visit here with "Hindle Wakes," which is well presented by Messrs. Edwin Maydew, Robert Gilbert, Alan Price, Frank Howard, Misses Evangeline Hope, Violet Lloyd, Margaret Bull, Nan Marriott, and Kate Bolton.

EMPIRE, LTD.—M. D., Mr. R. H. Gillespie; R. M., Mr. R. Sidebotham; Mus. D., Mr. John C. Fowler.—A bright and well-selected bill is presented by Scott and Whaley, coloured comedians; Milton Hayes, in a selection from his own compositions; Jen Latona, the "girl at the piano"; Sam Barton, who nearly rides a bicycle; Manuel Vega, with original ideas; Eddie Gray, juggler; and Geo. D'Albert, comedian.

HIPPODROME, LTD.—R. M., Mr. H. C. Savage; Mus. D., Mr. W. Bingley.—The Wylie-Tate production, "The Follies of 1921," is paying its first visit here, and, presented with all the completeness of detail, and richness of staging, for which this combination is renowned. The chief parts are well sustained by Miss Clarice Mayne and Mr. George Gregory, well supported by Arthur Margetson, Wallace Lupino, John Harcourt, Gus Chevalier, Misses Elsie Prince, Edna Prince, and Yvonne Dulac. A special feature is the dancing of the Palace Girls. The orchestra is under the able direction of Mr. Tom Lewis.

Boots, The Chemists, 55 and 57, Saint Hill; 252-54, West-street; 599, Attercliffe-road; 7, Netherthorpe-place; 97, South-street; 34-36, Snittall-hill; 284, Shalesmoor; 183-185, Attercliffe-common; 440, Abbeydale-road; 207, Broomhall-street; 6, High-street; 2-4, Duke-st. Park; 514-18, London-road, Heeley Bridge; 203, South-st., Moor; 652, Stanforth-rd., Darnall; 129, Newbould-lane, Broomhill; 3-5, Middle-road, Hillsborough; 212, London-road.

SOUTHAMPTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—R. M., Mr. Arthur Weston.—Return visit of Mr. Charles Doran and his Shakespearean company in "The Taming of the Shrew," "Julius Cæsar," "Macbeth," and other plays.

PALACE.—R. M., Mr. Will Murray; A. M., Mr. Harry Taylor.—Varieties by Marie Kendall, the versatile comedienne; The Hedjaz-Feisul Troupe, the world's greatest Arabian performers; Arthur Wilson Trio, musical equilibrists; Gerald Kennedy, supported by Marie Shirley, in the charming domestic episode, "Christmas Eve"; Marie Mayne and Florence Meredith, in comedy songs; La Amora and Karini, in their beautiful Spanish dancing; and Susie Marney, comedy chorus comedienne.

HIPPODROME.—R. M., Mr. Harry Yardley.—Harry Day presents the revue, "Jollities," the company including Tom Drew, Nora Dwyer, and The Royal Naval Quartette.

Boots, The Chemists, 84, High-street, Shirley; 97, East-street; 25, Above Bar; 103, St. Mary's-street; 107, Shirley-road; 29, London-road; 155, Bevois-hill; 9, Victoria-road, Woolston; 23, Leigh-road, Eastleigh.

SOUTHEND.

NEW PALACE.—P. & M., Miss Gertrude Mouillot; R. M., Miss Florence Dean; Mus. D., Mr. Adam Seebold.—Robert Hale and Arthur Rigby present "The Right To Strike."

Boots, The Chemists, 105, Hamlet Court-road.

STIRLING.

ALHAMBRA.—G. M., Mr. Jack M. Calder; R. M., Mr. Geo. Webster; Mus. D., Mr. Jas. Running.—Chris. Charlton and Co.; Jack Buckland, coon; De'Vine, ideal lady; Jack Raymond, comedian; Lyndon and Moore.

STOCKPORT.

THEATRE ROYAL.—S. O. & M., Mr. Charles Revill; A. M., Mr. Cyril D. Revill; B. M. & S., Mr. John Revill.—Thomas F. Convery presents his comedy revue, "Demobbed."

HIPPODROME.—L., Mr. J. H. Stansfield; R. M., Mr. Harry Spinks. The Great Desmo, illusionist; Ethel Bull, Welsh soprano; Billy Matchett, burlesque comedian; The Okayama Troupe of Japanese entertainers; Reg Wentworth, light comedian; The Two Canadians, instrumentalists; and Thora, ventriloquist.

Boots, The Chemists, 26, Bridge-street, Brow.

STOCKTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—P., Mr. J. Grantham; M., Mr. G. H. Rennie; M. D., Mr. Greenfield.—Mr. Fred D'Albert and repertory company in "Destiny," "The Stepmother," and "Charles Peace."

HIPPODROME.—P., North of England Entertainments Co.; S., Mr. G. V. Stainton; M., Mr. H. B. Metcalfe; M. D., Mr. P. Ferri.—Wal Elmore and Co., acrobats; Harris Family, in musical scena, "Evening on the River"; Scott and Scott, comedians; Bernard Sims, tenor; W. P. Wentley, entertainer; Clifton and Daisy, one-wheel wonders; Buff and Franklin, in a vaudeville cocktail.

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SWINDON.

EMPI

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 25, 1921.

THE THEATRE IN ADVERSITY.

THE startling headlines in the daily press regarding the position of the theatre are less exaggerated than usual. When so "obstinate" a success as "Chu Chin Chow" has to lower its colours the depression in business must be bad indeed. And however optimistic one may be, there is no denying the fact that the entertainment industry is at its lowest ebb. Six plays were taken off last week-end, and there are probably others to follow.

Cause and Effect.

The unprecedented slump in amusements is due to a combination of adverse circumstances, apart from the early arrival of summer, traceable to the industrial disturbance, which has disorganised trade and added to the list of unemployed. At many places in the provinces the electric supply has been cut down, limiting the time for performances. At Birmingham, for instance, as our correspondent advises us, the current has been cut off between the hours of 2 p.m. and 7 p.m., thus eliminating all matinées. In London, while the lighting remains untouched, the restricted train service renders playgoers in the suburbs nervous about getting conveyances home.

The curtailment in the Saturday services to outlying suburbs is also having an effect on the situation, as is proved by the diminished queues at the matinées. A walk round the West End on Saturday afternoon half-an-hour before the time of opening found not a single person at some of the pit and gallery entrances, while at one of the most popular houses there were as many chocolate-sellers as there were people waiting for admission!

Lightening the Burden.

No attempts meanwhile are being made to lighten the burden of the theatrical manager. "Carry on!" says the Minister of Transport, with an approving smile. "You keep up the spirit of the nation in these strenuous times." "Thank you for the Entertainments Tax," says the Chancellor of the Exchequer, holding out his hand. Still the embargo on the sale of refreshments at the performance remains without any justification. And the rents of theatres have been allowed to grow to an appalling extent. It is ridiculous to suggest, as has been suggested, that prices of admission should be lowered. They have never been increased to any appreciable extent. The price of the pit at a theatre where one of the most expensively mounted plays is being performed is still 2s. 6d., and other charges are in proportion. How can there be any reduction upon that? The minimum wage of the actor is £3. Is there another organised body of workers asking as low? And only a few weeks ago the stage staff agreed to withhold for the time being their request for higher rates of pay.

It is within the power of the Government to remit the Entertainment Tax and to remove the sweetmeats disability. Could they not also pass a "rent bill" to relieve tenants such as theatre lessees?

It is clearly time that some modifications in the economic conditions of the theatre such as we have hinted at were made. On the 16th of next month what is rightly described as one of the most interesting events in the annals of the Theatrical Managers' Association will take place. It is a special convocation to discuss at length the many difficulties with which both resident and touring managers are faced. We hope that on that occasion prominence will be given to the matters which we have enumerated, and that a plan of campaign may be inaugurated to remove the abuses under which theatrical enterprise has so long laboured.

THE PLAY IN PARIS.

Alfresco Theatre Opens—Competitor to the Grand Guignol—Old Comedy as Operetta—Melodrama again Fashionable.

(FROM "THE ERA" SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, Sunday.—The Theatre of the Pré Catelan, in the Bois de Boulogne, patronised during the Empire by the late Empress Eugenie, has been reopened for the summer by Irenée Mauget, who also directs the Nouveau Theatre (Musée Grévin). For his inauguration M. Mauget has produced a three-act farcical comedy called "Bethsabée," a skit on the infatuation of King David for the wife of his general, whom he promotes and despatches to the war, from whence he never returned. The work is full of wit and light philosophy, with an occasional snatch of irony.

The programme terminates with "Odile," a charming little piece in verse, by M. Valmy Baysse. A young officer plights his troth with a girl in the house in which he is billeted in Alsace. The girl is alone in the world, excepting for her aunt, who has remained faithful to a similar infatuation during the war of 1870. There is a call to arms, and soon after the girl is horrified to learn her sweetheart has been killed, almost identically under similar circumstances as the soldier her aunt had loved 50 years earlier.

Les Deux Masques.

This little theatre in the Rue Fontaine has provided its patrons with another mixed bill-of-fare, and it would seem the policy has caught on. The plat de résistance is a blood-curdling drama in two acts, "Le Couvent du Silence," by d'Hansewitch and M. Viterbo. It tells of a Spanish dancer who tries to escape from a convent through an exit which in by-gone days led victims to a terrible death. The custodian, in revenge, refrains from warning her, and calmly watches the spiked door close on the woman's body. For those liking this class of entertainment "The Convent of Silence" will please them. I prefer to be excused.

The licentious item, "L'Offre du Satyre," in which a woman's protector purposely hides to enable his mistress to receive a rich suitor, though intended to be funny, does not relieve the gloom. The farce by the poet Miguel Zamaçois, "L'Inconsolable," is more diverting. It depicts a widower instructing a painter to execute a portrait of the dear departed spouse, and then finding consolation in a model in the studio. The last item, "Tics," by René Berton, is a series of love adventures by persons addicted to ridiculous habits.

"La Petite Fonctionnaire."

The successful little comedy of Alfred Capus, produced at the old Theatre des Nouveautés, has been adapted as an operetta by the late Xavier Roux, to music of André Messager, and produced by M. Soulier, manager for J. Gould, at the Theatre Mogador. The book is agreeable, while the score of M. Mesager is delightful. But the story is hardly suitable for a musical comedy, though Edmée Favart, Henry Defreyn, Louis Maurel, and a good company carry it through nicely. The orchestra, under Paul Letombe, is one of the best in this city.

"Les Deux Gosses."

The above play, so well-known to you as "Two Little Vagabonds," was revived at the Theatre Sarah Bernhardt on Thursday. It was first produced in 1896 at the Ambigu, and the fact that it has probably never been so well mounted as at present is greatly due to the example set by the London version. Lucy Fleury and Jane Danjou impersonate the urchins, whose romantic adventures thrill the audience. We are now in the midst of a renassance of this category of entertainment with "Drink" at the Bat-Ta-Clan, "Les Miserables" at the Odeon as examples.

Russian Ballets

The actual company of Serge de Diaghilew, prior to its opening at the Prince's Theatre, London, is giving a short series at the Gaité. As a novelty the troupe now includes some Spanish dancers, who convey an impression of gitanos in an Andalusian inn scene. Another novelty is the new ballet, "Chout," or "The Buffon," by Serge Prokofioff, who prides himself upon having his own school. Prokofieff conducts the audience and is applauded; the cubic scenery of Larionff is startling. Charles B. Cochran was present at the first performance last week.

French "Peg o' My Heart."

A French version of this famous piece has been written by Yves Mirande and Maurice Vaucaire, and was presented at the Celestins, Lyons, last week, where it had a splendid reception. Berthe Bovy is a delicious Peg.

THE DRAMA IN AMERICA.

"Two Little Girls in Blue"—New Musical Comedy at the Central—Equity's Shakespearean Memories—English Stars' Debut.

(FROM "THE ERA" SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, May 14.—"Two Little Girls in Blue" is the title of a three-act musical comedy, recently produced at the George M. Cohan Theatre. The book is by Fred Jackson, the music by Paul Lannin and Vincent Youmans, and the lyrics by Arthur Francis. The scenes are laid on a steamship bound for India, and the two little girls of the title are Dolly and Polly Sartoris, twin sisters, who must get to India to claim an inheritance, and try to do so on one ticket. This means that each sister must take her turn at being a stowaway, while the other is on deck or at meals. They keep changing places, to the bewilderment of their two admirers, who believe they are both in love with the same girl. Stage twins in this case are represented by real twins, namely, Madeline and Marion Fairbanks, a winsome pair, who dance quite cleverly. Oscar Shaw and Fred Santley, as the friendly rivals, and Olin Howland as a burlesque detective, provide the comedy. The settings are strikingly novel. Two songs, "Who's Who With You?" and "Oh, Me! Oh, My! Oh, You!" have a tuneful swing, and make a hit.

"Princess Virtue."

At the Central Theatre a new musical comedy, called "Princess Virtue," is the attraction. The plot is about a wealthy American girl in Paris, who is courted for her money by a French tango dancer and an Austrian baron. Tessa Kosta is the prima-donna, and her singing is the most delightful feature of the show, which is not overburdened with humour, although the cast includes two clever comedians, Frank Moulan and Hugh Cameron. The authors of the piece are B. C. Hilliam and Gitz Rice.

The Equity Show.

The best feature of the Equity show at the Metropolitan Opera House last Sunday night was entitled "Memories." It was a procession of Shakespearean characters represented by prominent players, including Lillian Russell as Queen Catherine, Wilton Lackaye as Henry VIII., John Barrymore as Romeo, Margalo Gillmore as Juliet, Laurette Taylor as Ophelia, Lionel Atwill as Hamlet, Chrystal Herne as Viola, Jane Cowl as Katherine, John Drew as Petruchio, Doris Keane as Portia, George Arliss as Shylock, Peggy Wood as Imogen, Frank Bacon as Prospero, Genevieve Tobin as Ariel, Norma Talmadge as Mistress Page, Elsie Mackaye as Hermione, Madge Lessing as Rosalind, and Elsie Ferguson as Titania. Rose Coghlan appeared in a sketch, and Ethel Barrymore embodied the Spirit of Equity. For the Shakespearean pageant Nance O'Neil represented Memory, and read the familiar quotations as each figure appeared. The "Waltz Madness" selection proved highly entertaining. It was a medley of popular waltzes from musical comedies of past seasons, with hundreds of voices swelling the chorus of each waltz number. Hassard Short devised and directed the entertainment and deserves much credit.

"Phœbe of Quality Street."

A musical comedy, bearing the above title and based on Sir James Barrie's "Quality Street," was produced at the Shubert Theatre last Monday. Dorothy Ward, who made her American début in this piece as Phœbe Throssel, made herself popular immediately. The score, composed by Walter Kollo, is melodious, one number in particular, "Waltzing is Passing from Land to Land," charming the audience completely. Shaun Glenville is very amusing as Sergeant Terence O'Toole, and his song "It's Safe to Depend on the Irish" is a capital number. There is hardly a trace, however, of the spirit and atmosphere of the original comedy.

Ella Retford's Début.

Ella Retford made her American début at the Palace Theatre last Monday. Her engagement is for one week only, despite the fact that she established herself as a favourite at her opening. Her songs and imitations were received with enthusiastic approval by a crowded house.

"The Last Waltz."

"The Last Waltz," an operetta in three acts, by Oscar Straus, has scored an emphatic success at the Century Theatre. The score is a feast of harmony, the plot is intelligible, and the cast is excellent. Eleanor Painter, as the Countess Véra Lizaveta, sings delightfully, and James Barton, in the comedy rôle of Mat Maltby, is a clever funmaker and dancer. The hero of the story is an American naval officer, who is a prisoner in the Balkan kingdom of Vandalia. His incarceration is the result of his interference with Prince Paul, who has tried to force his unwelcome attentions on the Countess, and he faces the prospect of being tried by court-martial and shot. He is saved, however, by the efforts of the Countess and her faithful orderly, Mat Maltby. The numbers likely to prove most popular are "The Last Waltz," "Fading Golden Love Dream," "My Heart is Making," and "Bring Him My Love Thoughts." The book has been adapted for the American stage by Harold Atteridge and Edward Delaney Dunn. The music includes several interpolated numbers. Produced by Lee and J. J. Shubert, the piece is handsomely staged, and is a most attractive and enjoyable offering.

A New Petruchio.

Walter Hampden, who has been appearing at the Selwyn Theatre in a revival of Charles Rann Kennedy's play, "The Servant in the House," changed his bill last Monday and added an excellent portrayal of "Petruchio" to his Shakespearean repertoire. Mr. Hampden's Hamlet has been familiar to our playgoers for several seasons, but his first appearance as Macbeth occurred only a few weeks ago, and was a highly successful event. Now he has revived "The Taming of the Shrew," and is presenting it in a spirited and jocular manner that makes it highly entertaining. Mary Hall plays Katherine with much gusto and no little humour. William Sauter is a capital Baptista.

"NERVES" AND OTHER AFFLICTIONS.

EFFECT ON ARTISTIC WORK.

By LADDIE CLIFFE.

"Nerves" and temperament are, to a very large extent, an artist's stock in trade. Coupled with his or her natural talents, I am convinced that they have an illimitable effect on audiences that a great number of us "wot not of"!

Firstly, they constitute personality—without which an artist is not worthy of the name—and we are all familiar with

[*Photo., Stage Photo. Co.*
MR. LADDIE CLIFFE.

the effect of various personalities on audiences, causing instant changes of moods, such as from coldness to enthusiasm, tears to laughter, &c.

Secondly, "nerves" make us either brave or scared in front of audiences (O memories of shivering first nights!), and in each case they have their uses.

If they incite bravery (I don't mean brazeness) they fit us to deal with new material and like terrors with a greater calmness and intelligence, thus enabling us to learn quicker its real value, revealing the weak and strong spots instantly.

If "nerves" make us scared there is still something to be said in their favour (albeit a doubtful quantity). A true artist, no matter how actually scared in front of an audience, seldom shows it, and this same scaredness often turns to desperate courage, resulting in the saving of many weak spots and awkward situations—I speak from experience. Of course, if nervousness turns to panic, we are—to use a vulgarism—*whacked!* But I doubt if it often does.

Temperament.

Now we arrive at temperament—"Temperament, what crimes are committed in thy name!"—Temperament, I consider, makes us either fit or unfit for a theatrical career. There are not many stoics in "the game," they are rare exceptions. A pliable, sympathetic, patient and cheerful temperament is usually found in a great artist, with sometimes a little spurt of fire thrown in for make-weight, and—O most blessed of all gifts—a sense of humour! A *real* sense of humour that can appreciate the joke even when it is "on" oneself.

Message of Good Cheer.

It occurs to me that we, of the profession, are beginning to *think* a great deal more than we were wont some few years ago, and I see the fruits of this thought manifested in more intelligent endeavour day by day. We have realised that we are no longer "strolling players," but an important factor in the life of a nation, inasmuch as each time we face an audience we have a message to deliver—a message of happiness and good cheer, and it is our duty, and it should be our earnest desire, to send our hearers away in better spirits than before they heard or saw us, as the case may be.

Therefore, let us occasionally overhaul our nerves, temperament and abilities, in order to satisfy ourselves that they are functioning fully in the right direction in justice to our audiences. Don't let us be satisfied to "carry on" thoughtlessly year after year—snug and content with our bookings. Let us make "Progress" our watchword, and employ our dear old nerves and temperament to this end.

AS YOU LIKE IT.

Hamlet to Oscar Asche: "Try conclusions."

* * *

But how sad it will be, as one theatre-goer pointed out, when the world is Chu-Chin-Chowless!

* * *

We have wept tears over the Ashes—now we are weeping tears over Asche.

* * *

Of course, there is a rush now for the box-office at His Majesty's. In Shakespeare's words, "It is the true beginning of our end."

* * *

And in Hector's, in "Troilus and Cressida," "The end crowns all!"

* * *

So poor Harry Lauder has lost his pipe! But he still gets plenty of puffs.

* * *

Well, if he has lost his pipe, thank goodness he can still warble.

* * *

Prince Henry has just become a Mercer—"the Quality of Mercer," as one might say.

* * *

"Leave theatres that don't belong to you," is one of Sir Henry Wilson's latest military utterances. May I pass the advice on to ambitious cinema magnates?

* * *

What a lot of "nightie" plays are being produced! Soon we shall talk of going to First Nighties.

* * *

"Remember there's a Peace on!" exclaimed a contemporary last week. More like twenty or thirty, and being played every night.

* * *

Talking of which, have you seen "Dianthus Barbatus"—or, I should say, "Sweet William"?

TOUCHSTONE.

EDMUND GWENN AND ALFRED LESTER, in "Pins and Needles," at the Royalty.

WHAT'S ON IN TOWN.

ADELPHI (Strand. W.C.). — "The Naughty Princess," 8. Wed., Sat., 2. Gerr. 2645.

ALDWYCH (Strand).—"Love Among the Paint Pots," 8.30. Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 7928.

ALHAMBRA (Leicester-square, W.C.).—"Robey-en-Casserole," 8.15. Wed., Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 5064.

APOLLO (Shaftesbury-avenue).—"Don Q." 8.15. Wed., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3243.

COLISEUM (Charing Cross). — The Danish Dancers, The English Ballet, Miss Carrie Tubb, Coram and "Jerry," Florence Wray and Co., Four Clares, &c., 2.30 and 7.45. Gerr. 7540.

COURT (Sloane-square).—"Othello," 8. Wed., Sat., 2. Gerr. 848.

CRITERION (Coventry-st.).—"Grumpy," 8.30. Tues., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3844.

DALY'S (Cranbourn-st., W.C.).—"Sybil," 8. Tues., Thurs., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 201.

DUKE OF YORK'S (St. Martin's-lane).—"The Tartan Peril," 8. Th., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 314.

EMPIRE (Leicester-sq.).—"The Rebel Maid," Wed., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 3527.

GAIETY (Strand, W.C.).—"Faust on Toast," 8. Wed., Sat., 2. Gerr. 2780.

GARRICK (Charing Cross-road, W.C.).—"Count X," 8. "Mis' Nell o' New Orleans," daily 2.30. Gerr. 9513.

GLOBE (Shaftesbury-av., W.). — "The Knave of Diamonds," 8.30. Wed., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 8722.

HAYMARKET (Haymarket, S.W.). — "The Circle," 8.30. Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Reg. 6030.

HIPPODROME (Cranbourn-st., W. 6).—"The Peep Show," 2.30 and 8.15. Gerr. 650.

HIS MAJESTY'S (Haymarket).—"Chu Chin Chow," 8. Wed., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 1777.

KINGSWAY (Gt. Queen-st., W.C.).—"Hunky Dory," 8.15. Mon., Wed., 2.30. Gerr. 4032.

LITTLE (Shaftesbury-av.). — London's Grand Guignol (third series), 8.15. Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Reg. 2401 and 2402.

LONDON PAVILION (Piccadilly-circus, W.).—"London, Paris, and New York," 8.15. Tues. and Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 704 and 705.

LYCEUM (Wellington-st., Strand, W.C.). —"The Savage and the Woman," 7.45. Wed., Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 7617.

LYRIC (Shaftesbury-av., W.).—"A Little Dutch Girl," 8. Wed., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 3687.

NEW (St. Martin's-lane, W.C.).—"The Wandering Jew," 8.15. Wed., Sat., 2.30. Regent 4466.

NEW OXFORD (Oxford-street, W.).—"League of Notions." 8.15. Wed., Sat., 2.30. Museum 1740.

PALACE (Shaftesbury-av.). — Douglas Fairbanks in "The Mark of Zorro," Mme. Bertini, &c., 2 to 10.30. Gerr. 6834.

QUEEN'S (Shaftesbury-av.).—"Mary," 8. Mon., Wed., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 9437.

ROYALTY (Dean-st., Shaftesbury-av., W. 6).—"Pins and Needles," 8. Wed., Sat., 2.30.

SAVOY (Strand, W.C.).—"Paddy the Next Best Thing," 8. Mon., Sat., 2.15 Gerr. 3366-7.

ST. JAMES' (King-st., W.).—"Polly With a Past," 8.15. Wed., Sat., 2.30. "Emma," Mon., Tues., Thurs. Fri., 2.30. Gerr. 1903

ST. MARTIN'S (St. Martin's-lane, W.C.). —"Bill of Divorcement," 8.30. Fri., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 1243 and 3416.

STRAND (Strand, W.C.). — "A Safety Match," 8. Wed., Thurs., 2.30. Gerr. 3830.

WINTER GARDEN (Drury-lane). — "A Night Out," 8. Thurs., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 416.

WYNDHAM'S (Charing Cross-road).—"Bull-Dog Drummond," 8.15. Wed., Sat., 2.30. Regent 3028.

THE VARIETY WORLD.

Vaudeville's Benevolent Activities — Brinsworth Endowment Fund — Cricketing Juvenile Lead—Helpers Wanted for "Forget-Me-Not" Day.

Vaudeville's Benevolent Work.

In the organisation of charity concerts, and in their readiness to appear at entertainments in aid of any deserving cause, the large-hearted folk of the variety stage have a deservedly enviable reputation, and in a recent chat with Mr. Dave Carter, the popular manager of the Vaudeville Club, we learnt of a few of the club's activities in this direction during the last few years. The first concerts at St. Dunstan's were organised by the Vaudeville Club. These were, as is well known, very successful. A series of concerts for the Police Orphanage, held at the Kingsway Hall, Æolian Hall, Queen's Hall, and the Eagle Hut, realised upwards of £1,000 for that deserving charity. A concert at the Town Hall, Birmingham, for ex-Service men, with Earl Beatty in the chair, realised £2,000, and the special performance at the Hackney Empire for the Wellington-road Synagogue brought in £600.

The Old Pro.s.' Paradise, "Brinsworth," has not been forgotten, over £1,000 having been raised by the Vaudeville Club and the Grand Order of Water Rats for that excellent institution. Mention must also be made of the Victory concert at Wellington Barracks, when the Prince of Wales, who presided, personally complimented Mr. Carter. A fine record of benevolent work.

Brinsworth Endowment Fund.

£38,000 is still required to Endow Brinsworth and place the Home for Aged Performers on a self-supporting basis for all time. Those who have not yet had their certificate should send along one guinea to Harry Marlow, organiser, V.A.B.F., 18, Charing Cross Road, W.C. 2.

A Cricketing Juvenile Lead.

Reginald Sharland, "The Peep-Show's" juvenile lead, is a first-class cricketer. Before the war—and on occasions since—he played for the Gentlemen of Essex and the West of Scotland, and would have been participating in the County Championship this season—at least, so says the famous "Andy" Ducat—had not the Hippodrome contract required two stage appearances a day.

Variety Artists' Federation.

Members of the V.A.F. are requested to note that eleven death levies are now due upon the 1921 book. Red stamps twenty-one.

Forget-Me-Not Day.

Many more helpers are needed if Forget-Me-Not Day is to be a record success this year. The cause is a most deserving one—to aid the widows, orphans, aged, and needy of the profession. Lady de Frece, the popular president of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, has kindly consented to sell the pretty little blue favours, and the names of other ladies will be gratefully received, and should be sent to the Secretary, Room 36, 18, Charing Cross Road.

Proposed Football League.

Mr. Chas. Willmott, assistant manager of the Brixton Empress, tells us that the replies to his application re the proposed Music Hall Football League are coming in steadily, if somewhat slowly. It is Mr. Willmott's intention, so soon as a sufficient number of answers have been received, to convene a meeting, preferably in the West End, in order to put the matter on a sure foundation. Full particulars will be published when the final arrangements are made.

A Parting Gift.

Mr. John Millar, who has recently retired from the position of musical director at the King's Theatre, Southsea, a post he has held for eight years, has been presented with a wallet and contents, as an expression of goodwill from the members of the orchestra, the staff, and numerous friends. Mr. Charles Clarke, the acting manager, in making the presentation, said that the artists who had appeared at the theatre from time to time had invariably spoken highly of Mr. Millar, who, in his acknowledgment of the presentation, said it was a source of great satisfaction to him to realise that he possessed so many friends.

Liverpool Hall Closes.

The Lyric Theatre, Everton, Liverpool, closed down on Saturday, owing, it is stated, to business depression. It is rumoured that, should it be re-opened, pictures will be the fare. The theatre, which is capable of seating 2,000 people, was built by Ellis Brammall, junr., twenty-four years ago, and at Christmas, 1897, was opened by the late Henry C. Arnold with "Blue Beard" pantomime. For five years it was a dramatic house, but afterwards it became a twice-nightly variety house.

A Birthday Revel.

Miss Edna Maude, "The Spirit of Dance," is seventeen on the First of June. The Palace, Burnley, happens to be her "shop" that week, and she intends, she says, to have a "high old time." Given managerial permission, she proposes, it appears, to invite her fellow-artists to a long-night celebration on the stage.

Haidee de Rance.

Miss Haidee de Rance has resumed her engagements in town, and is playing at the Metropolitan this week, where she is featuring her own two compositions, "Lonely," and "I Shall Remember Though You May Forget," both of which are issued by the Lawrence Wright Music Co.

Two Welcome Returners.

A couple of strong stage favourites—of varied attainments—are due in London from America about the time of our going to press this week, namely, Ella Retford, who has made a great hit during the short stay she was able to make in the States, and Annie Hughes, the versatile actress, who, in her early girlhood was the original Little Lord Fauntleroy.

"Aubrey the Strawberry."

The statement in the variety world last week that the song, "Aubrey the Strawberry," has been acquired by Archie Graham is denied by Wee Georgie Harris, who has shown us the assignment to himself of the sole singing and performing rights of the song, made out by the author, William Ewart, as far back as November last. Wee Georgie has been singing the number with great success.

Wm. Ewart adds that he is the author-composer of "Aubrey the Strawberry from Somewhere in Norbury," and that Wee Georgie Harris holds the sole music hall rights.

"Oh! I!"

Mr. Michael Hanaway, having been ordered by his doctor to take a two months' sea voyage, that attractive and popular musical-comedy burlesque, "Oh! I." will be off the road for that period, managers objecting to understudies. This is the first time for twenty years that either of the Brothers Hanaway has been ill or out of harness—surely a record. They wish to thank proprietors, managers, and agents for postponing dates.

The 7 Football Girls.

A new act, entitled "The Seven Football Girls," is to make its appearance shortly. It is invented, produced, and managed by Archie Mills (the popular composer-comedian), who is responsible for the entire repertaire, from ballads to burlesques, &c., The "kick off" is followed by a rag, "Football Mad," and a skipping rope dance will form part of the training, after which the "At Home" will provide many novel features, comedy being a strong point.

Joe Tunbridge.

We are glad to hear that Joe Tunbridge, the well-known composer, and on the staff of Messrs. Feldman, who was taken ill with pneumonia recently, is slowly progressing towards recovery.

Joe has been responsible for the musical score of many of Harry Day's revues and more recently for "Spangles," which is enjoying a big provincial success.

Miss Maud Allan.

Miss Maud Allan, after a successful provincial tour, has arranged to appear at the London Coliseum in June. Her programme will include a number of new dances of a striking character. It is understood that it is the famous dancer's intention to establish an academy of dancing and music in London in the near future.

Herbert Clifton.

During his absence from this country, extending over seven years, Herbert Clifton, the female impersonator, has played long seasons in Australia, New Zealand, and, more recently, in the United States, concluding his tour at Chicago. At New Cross last week Herbert was given a hearty welcome, and although he is due to return to the States in November, he will be coming back next season to play further tours for the Moss circuit. Herbert had an exciting experience prior to sailing for this country from the other side. Having booked his passage on the Imperator, he arrived in New York to find the sailing had been cancelled, and his baggage was transferred to the Saxonia, which was leaving from Halifax, N.S. Herbert, however, arrived at the latter place three hours after the boat had sailed. Among those who had come to see him off was an aviator friend, who persuaded Herbert to overtake the boat in his hydroplane, which he successfully accomplished.

Percy Le Fre.

We hear that Percy Le Fre will shortly be making his reappearance on the halls in a new single act. Percy has recently concluded a long panto. engagement at the Alhambra, Glasgow, in which he played the comedy part. He was previously at the Gaiety, playing in both the "Shop Girl" and "Kiss Call." Whilst he was at the Palace in "Hullo, America!" Percy was understudy to Stanley Lupino, and played the part for two weeks with much success.

Billy Rutherford.

At Chatham last week Billy Rutherford resumed his part in Harry Slingsby's revue, "Oh, Laugh!" from which he had been absent for a fortnight owing to laryngitis. Billy has now quite recovered, and was in excellent form. During his absence his part has been well played by Harry Kynman.

"The Peep Show."

Frank Boor, the manager of the Hippodrome, has been at great pains to discover which are the most popular items of "The Peep Show." From exhaustive inquiries made among Hippodrome patrons, it seems that the "Song Shop" is the favourite feature. Again and again have members of both sexes come to hear their favourite old-time ballad or comic song. The fair sex plump solid for Tom Costello's "At Trinity Church I Met My Doom," now sung by Stanley Lupino. This is closely followed in popularity by "After the Ball" and "In Her Hair She Wore a White Camelia." Frequent inquiries are made daily at the box-office as to the time the Song Shop scene will be presented. The Dickens scene is undoubtedly the next most popular item, and favours seem to be equally divided in this case between the Bill Sikes cameo and the Pickwickian coaching incident.

The Good Old Annual.

The staff of the Keighley Hippodrome had their annual outing on Whit Sunday, a party of about 50 journeying to Southport by motor char-a-banc. The day was gloriously fine, and a very happy time was spent.

Trueman Towers.

Mr. Trueman Towers, the manager of the Leicester Palace Theatre, who has been ill for some little time, has now quite recovered, and has returned to his duties.

Athas and Collins' New Act.

At the South London this week, Albert Athas and Lizzie Collins are presenting a new entertainment. Styling themselves, "The Dopers," they appear in an original dope burlesque, entitled "Imaginations," which was accorded a most enthusiastic reception on Monday evening. The idea for this scena was suggested by Lizzie Collins and written up by Joe Hayman, a little more than a year. It is pleasing to find that the clever dancing of Albert is retained in the new show. This is always a delightful feature. Next week Albert and Lizzie, who wears some most attractive gowns in the new act, will appear at the Palace, Walthamstow, and remain in town for some weeks.

Russell and Durbin.

At the Euston Palace this week, Harry Russell and Ethel Durbin, the whirlwind dancers, make their reappearance in town after a successful season in the provinces. On Monday evening Harry and Ethel were given a hearty reception for their clever performance and the audience would have liked a further contribution, but time would not permit. Next week Harry and Ethel appear at the Metropolitan, and then leave for another provincial tour.

May B. Brilliant.

This week at the Hippodrome, Coventry, May B. Brilliant, the clever comedienne—who is bottom of the bill—will introduce Feldman's latest winner, "Down Yonder," which is at present the rage in America

Jennie Benson.

Jennie Benson was unable, owing to indisposition, to appear at the Birmingham Empire on Monday evening, much to the regret of her many admirers. The management was fortunate in obtaining Max Darewski, the famous pianist, to head the bill in her place.

The Martinis.

The Martinis, who have been appearing before the English and American Army of Occupation on the Rhine, returned to England after the show on Saturday night. They experienced much difficulty in getting to Hanley in time to open on Monday.

For South Africa.

The following artists sailed from Southampton on Friday per R.M.S. Kinfauns Castle to fulfil engagements with the African Theatres, Ltd., booked by the I.V.T.A., Ltd.:—Beretta Trio, Charles Cory, Fisher and Lea, Moore and Roby.

Popular Leeds Manager.

By kind permission of the Chairman and Directors of the Palace Theatres (Leeds), Ltd., Mr. H. Vernon Hague, the General Manager of the City Varieties, Leeds, took a farewell complimentary benefit on Friday evening last, at the termination of four years' successful management. The twenty popular turns included artists from Moss's Empire, and Wylie and Tate's revue, "The Passing Show, 1921," from the Leeds Hippodrome. The hall was packed, and the benefit proved a great success.

The Terriers.

At the meeting on Sunday last, Will B. Willby officiated as W.T., Walter Norman as V.T., Ken Barton G.C., W. Welsh W.I., Miller Sutcliffe W.D., Howard Ward Y.B., Tommie Ford Organist, and Arthur Were Secretary.

A hearty welcome was extended to Braddy Shaw, Harry Moore, and Howard Ward upon their re-appearance in the Kennel.

The following applications for membership have been received:—First notice, Jack Hayes; final, W. G. Watts.

Bertram Maurice has passed the ballot.

The election of officers for June will be held on Sunday.

Kitty Grey.

After two years' absence from the halls, Kitty Grey, the delightful young vocalist, made her reappearance last week at the Queen's, Poplar, and was accorded a hearty reception for her rendition of two ballads. On Monday week Miss Grey resumes the Stoll tour at Wood Green.

All the Way From the States.

Mr. Dave Carter has recently received a chatty letter from Frank Van Hoven, addressed from Grand Rapids, Michigan. The popular Dippy Magician is making a great success on the other side.

Adelina Levey in Sydney.

Adelina A. Levey, the popular entertainer, who went to Australia about a year ago, is having a busy time in Sydney, reading and teaching her brother's poems, and giving elocution lessons. She wishes to be kindly remembered to her many friends at home.

F. Barrett Carman.

At the Hippo., Gloucester, recently, F. Barrett Carman, the American humourist, made his début in this country, and judging from reports he is very welcome on this side. Reeves and Lamport are handling this artist's bookings.

The Dufor Bros.

At Wood Green this week, Harry and Dennis Dufor are making their re-appearance in town. On Monday week they resume the Moss tour at Nottingham, and sail next October for America, returning next summer, when it is probable they will be seen in a West-End show.

G. H. Carlisle.

The popular composer-pianist-conductor, G. H. Carlisle, who made such an excellent impression with his new act last week at Walham Green, is this week appearing at the Queen's, Poplar.

Leslie Strange.

That clever burlesque artist, Leslie Strange, was re-appearing last week at the Victoria Palace, and secured a hearty reception for his original studies from life.

M.H.A.R.A. MEETING.

PROPOSED INCREASE OF SUBSCRIPTION.

The subscription to the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association includes 2s. 6d. which is allocated to the funds of the Variety Artists' Benevolent Fund. In this manner the Association, which is actually a business concern, not only renders good use and service to its members, but simultaneously aids the good cause of charity.

Though the allocation of half-crowns is optional, inasmuch as the rules of the M.H.A.R.A. specify that the money shall be so paid over if its funds permit, most of the members are anxious to revert to this kindly arrangement. This, it seems, will involve an increase of 2s. 6d. annual subscription.

A special meeting of the Committee was held on Wednesday at the offices of the V.A.F., Charing Cross-road, to discuss the situation, when Mr. Cecil Morley presided, others present including Messrs. Harry Claff, Alf. Herald, Bruce Green, J. W. Cragg, Monte Bayly, Barry Ono, and C. Douglas Stewart (secretary).

The actual purport of the meeting was to increase the subscription to the M.H.A.R.A. The Chairman explained that last year the income included £1,486 from 512 members, and £497 from entrance fees. The total amounted to £2,778, which included the 2s. 6d. per member for the V.A.B.F. The expenditure was £2,645, leaving a balance of £133 for the year. Hence there was likely to be a deficit next year.

Mr. Bruce Green said the only way to get the benevolent subscription from the members was by means of membership fees. The Fund was entitled to the 2s. 6d. per member, and without the compulsory method few members would contribute. The fee should be increased so that the M.H.A.R.A. could guarantee the half-crowns.

Mr. Barry Ono agreed that an increase should be adopted in order that the grant to the V.A.B.F. could be continued.

There was a general feeling that the half-crown should be so guaranteed, and it was decided to have another meeting to pass the formal resolution that will be necessary. This meeting will be held in the Board Room, 18, Charing Cross-road on Wednesday, June 15, at 12 noon, to consider a resolution that Rule 33, which now reads as follows: "That the amount of the annual subscription be fixed at 7s. 6d. for adults and 5s. for children under the age of 12, 2s. 6d. of which shall be donated to the V.A.B.F., provided that the financial position of the Association permits," be altered to read as follows: "That the amount of the annual subscription be fixed at 10s. for adults and 7s. 6d. for children under the age of 12. 2s. 6d. of which shall be donated to the V.A.B.F.," and then to delete the words "provided that the financial position of the Association permits."

BRITISH DANCERS ON THE CONTINENT.

The appearance of the English Ballet at the Coliseum reminds us that there are several British dancers bearing aloft the banner of terpsichore on the Continent. One especially memorable is Miss Rita Vivian, who figured so successfully as premier danseuse in last season's grand opera at Covent Garden. She has been appearing with the famous Russian dancer,

RITA VIVIAN.

Gavrilov, in Paris, Madrid, Marseilles, and Barcelona, winning golden opinions everywhere.

Miss Vivian has impersonated the heroine of "Le Clown," better known in this country as "At the Wings." Others of M. Gavrilov's productions are "Spectre de la Rose" and "Prince Igor."

The Continental Press have been enthusiastic in praise of the company, one writer describing it as the most brilliant portion of the Russian Ballet troupe, and another declaring that "all Madrid should go and see them." It is anticipated that M. Gavrilov will shortly be seen in London.

The recent invention of Frank Latona, known as the "Ednor" Tank Washer, is now being demonstrated at Messrs. A. W. Gamage's store in High Holborn.

Joyce and Shields.

A clever dancing act, which gained hearty appreciation last week at the Queen's, Poplar, was that contributed by Joyce and Shields. These artists, who are sailing for a season in South Africa in September, play the L.T.V. tour next year.

Mr. M. Attwood-Allen, who, it will be recalled, organised the Cinema Cricket Match last season, is now busy arranging for the doctors of London to beat, be beaten by, or draw with, the chemists of London, at Ealing in July. After that, he talks of more cinema cricket—and he has, too, in mind a challenge of some sort against the "Hunky Dory" Scots of the Kingsway Theatre.

MY MUSIC HALL TOUR.

A TIP TO MANAGERS—THE TRAGEDY OF ACHIEVEMENT—WHAT IS A DRUM?

I recommend music hall managers who are on the look-out for budding stars to keep their eye on a certain small, unnamed boy appearing with Riley's Wonders. He is quite an extraordinary little specimen of humanity. He "goes all he knows" for all he does, and as he knows a lot he is given a lot to do In particular, mark his policeman song, "I'm P.C. Forty-three."

At the Euston Palace.

I marked him last week at the Euston Palace, where Riley's Wonders opened the bill. They gave a bright entertainment. Next came Rastus and Banks, the coloured dancers. Perhaps "coloured caperers" would be a more apt description, for their dancing is not of the ballroom style, being rather a representation of Terpsichore in a mood for high jinks. The lady has a flashing air about her, and her partner is as vigorous as a dog chasing its tail and as elastic as a jack-in-the-box.

The only other dancing in the programme was provided by Tom Walters and Eddie Morris. Their little Irish sketch has a good deal of pleasant humour in it, and the idea of a father in the audience seeing his son on the stage for the first time and eventually joining him, is good. The pair dance a rollicking Irish jig remarkably well.

Singers of different types were Anna Hana and Jessie Allan. Former, full of devil and patriotism, and all that sort of thing, with original character-studies which were much enjoyed. Latter, full of memories and sentimentality, and all that sort of thing. Jessie Allan writes her own songs, and sang three: "Since I Lost You," "The Roses Love the Sunshine," and another, the title of which eluded me. The Four Clovelly Girls, Goddesses of Shining Indian Clubs, gave a dazzling performance—and never tell me that the particular Goddess who at one moment fell from Olympus by missing a club could not have caught it if she had tried! Their juggling is unerring, and they seem to have developed their skill to the highest pitch.

Wherefore they have my sympathy. For what, after all, is more deadly than to reach one's goal? I see myself, as a Clovelly Boy, struggling in my early days to throw the shining clubs about, missing them, bumping my head with them, and achieving success by painful steps. Perhaps, when I am seventy, I accomplish one-quarter of what I set out to do, and what the Clovelly Girls actually do. There is a life of splendid endeavour! But the Clovelly Girls are still in their prime, and there is nothing left for them to conquer.

Dick Henderson, the Yorkshire comedian, rattled off some good patter, and proved that he has a first-rate voice. It was fitting that the programme, which began with Riley's Wonders, should conclude with the Hartley Wonders. They are. Who but a wonder could jump blindfolded over a circle of chairs, as the male Hartley did, or maintain such high-pressure spirits as the female Hartley did?

At the Kilburn Empire.

It was a little farther than I had reckoned from the Euston Palace to the Kilburn Empire, and when I reached Kilburn I found Niobe, deputising for Daly and Healy, just concluding her bell-ringing performance. This was a pity, as, apart from singing, there were few other musical turns. Only one, in fact, if you can call a drum musical. The drum was played by the elastic Miller Sutcliffe, and formed part of the Highland sports and pastimes which he and his partner presented. It may also be asked whether a drum is a pastime, but I am sure the Coliseum drummer would argue that it is, while Miller Sutcliffe proved that it could be by constantly falling over his drum and allowing it to roll over him.

Of singing, there was no dearth. Ray Wallace gave a pleasing selection of songs at the piano, including her clever imitations of other popular singers; Daisy Taylor, the popular Scottish comedienne, sang "I Do Miss My Mississippi Home"; Syd Walker, always a delight, sang his house-hunting song and "Who Put the Bricks in Brixton?"; and Arthur Woodville, towards the end of the evening, sang "It's a Nice Time for You to Come Home." Luckily, we didn't take his hint, or we should have missed the Three Laurels, who, though the last turn, proved also one of the best. Their speciality act is among the neatest of its kind.

Cooper and Lait appeared as Cupid and Psyche, otherwise a nurse and an eccentric millionaire, and Vera and Russell Wray gave a skit on house-hunting. Are houses growing more scarce again? There were two house-hunting turns on the programme, which suggests that the journalists who are telling us that houses are going up while prices are coming down are optimists. That is a charge which cannot often be made against journalism.

EXTRA TURN.

Marion Vallance.

That pleasing young vocalist, Marion Vallance, who was last seen in town at the Palace Theatre, with Sir Harry Lauder, resumes the Moss tour at Newcastle on Monday next, and returns to town at New Cross on June 20.

Clifford and Grey.

The hurricane hoop jugglers, Clifford and Grey, are making their first appearance in town since their recent visit to South Africa this week at Shepherd's Bush.

Mayne and Sheridan.

Mayne and Sheridan's new number, "You Can't Tame Wild Wimmin," is written and composed by Percy Mayne. Silberman and Co. are the publishers. This firm also publishes Mayne and Sheridan's "Have You Seen My Brother Anywhere?"

Bart and Edie.

Following a long absence abroad, which included a twelve weeks' engagement in South Africa, and a season at the Alhambra, Paris, Bart and Edie with their original act, "Shifting a Trunk," made their re-appearance in town last week at the Queen's, Poplar. When playing in South Africa, these artists were commanded to appear at a special performance before Prince and Princess Arthur of Connaught. Before leaving for another season on the Continent, Bart and Edie will return to town for a season in a couple of weeks.

Jen Latona.

That clever and popular entertainer at the piano, Jen Latona, who was one of the principal attractions last week at the Queen's, Poplar, has made a change in her act by introducing half a dozen three-minute numbers, and eliminating repeat choruses. This week Jen. is appearing at the Empire, Sheffield, and next week returns to Hackney.

Bert. Lee.

At Shepherd's Bush this week, Bert Lee is introducing a new number, entitled "Ohio." Next week Bert. goes to Leicester, and after playing Manchester, returns to town for three weeks.

Irene Shamrock.

That versatile young artist, Irene Shamrock, who has been starring in "The Whirligig" for the past two months, is taking a rest in town this week. Irene is evidently in much demand, as we hear that she is unable to fix up contracts for her recent successful single act owing to further offers for important productions.

Hilda Nelson.

That charming vocalist, Hilda Nelson—who is capitally supported by Rita Neve and Peter Muscaut in "Gems of Melody"—was back in town last week at Wood Green after a most successful season on the Controlling tour. When playing at Wolverhampton recently, Miss Nelson, in addition to appearing at the matinée, went among the audience and collected over £20 for "Warriors' Day." Next Monday this artist resumes the Stoll tour at Shepherd's Bush for three weeks, and then leaves town until August, when she resumes the L.T.V. tour for three months.

Fred. Granger.

For the past 18 months, Fred. Granger has been playing one of the principal parts in "The Far East," and after playing at the Palace, Reading, next week, commences a season in town the following week at the Palace, Tottenham.

Marjorie Bowen and the Films.

The authoress of "The Viper of Milan" and other well-known novels is an authority on Dutch history. Lecturing in Holland recently upon this subject, she was requested by the Granger-Binger Studios to write the titles for Dumas' "The Black Tulip," now nearing completion at Haarlem. An interesting discussion took place, and Miss Bowen witnessed some of the filming of this classic. Arrangements were then concluded whereby the entire titling of this big Granger-Binger production will be left in her hands.

A Novel Production.

"The Motor Chaperon"—a story of "the land o' dykes," written by C. N. and A. M. Williamson—is being filmed in Volendam, Holland, one of the few places in the Netherlands where one may find the Dutch national costume still being worn. The silvery waterways of Holland form picturesque settings for this story of a girl's adventures in a motor-boat, with the famous Harbour at Volendam as a sort of headquarters. Film-goers will find decided novelty in this production, one of the latest Granger-Binger features.

Miss Alice d'Egville is producing and playing Hubert Henry Davies's comedy, "Cousin Kate," at the Cripplegate Theatre, Golden-lane, E.C., on May 26, at 7.30 p.m. in aid of the Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Hospital. Tickets can be obtained of Miss Johnson, 30, Euston-square.

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THE LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

THE COLISEUM.

Mme. Carrie Tubb made her first appearance in a variety programme on Monday afternoon. Rarely can she have been heard to better advantage. Her big dramatic voice wants space to grow and expand as it travels, and in the Coliseum its fine high and middle tones rang out with telling power and volume. Her first solo was Elizabeth's Greeting to the Hall of Song, out of "Tannhäuser." It was sung with splendid verve and vivacity, and was warmly received. Sir Frederick Cowen's "The Swallows," a very old favourite ballad, followed, and last came "Softly Sighs," from Weber's "Der Freischütz." This also Mme. Tubb sang admirably, the cantabile part in particular being beautifully phrased. Though there was great applause when the curtain fell, no encore was conceded.

"The Brain Wave," a comedy sketch by R. G. Hunter, with lyrics by F. J. Whitmarsh and music by Ralph Letts, brings on Miss Florence Wray, a soprano with a voice and style worthy of better material. Miss Wray takes the part of a fair amateur burglar, who robs an eminent K.C. of a pearl necklace, presents the spoil to her fiancé, his son, and then engages her future father-in-law as counsel to defend her when she is brought up at the police court! There are smart, topical lines in the piece here and there, but it needs compression. Miss Wray's voice, with its pure, sweet, high tones, is quite delightful to listen to. She has a pretty valse to sing, and she wears most successfully some gorgeous frocks and a dream of a cloak. The sketch owed a favourable reception to the bright and neat playing of a company which, besides Miss Wray, includes Mr. F. C. Glover as the K.C., Mr. Gissing Walters as an imperturbable butler, and Mr. Richard Williams as the fiancé.

Lovers of the dance are able to draw comparisons between the Danish Dancers and the English Ballet. Mme. Elna Jorgen-Jensen and Mr. John Andersen and their corps de ballet appear in a pas de deux and a santerella. Mr. Alfred Haines and company, including Nina Warburton, Aleta Delph, and Kathleen Spence, and an octette of coryphées, give several "inventions" to music by Cowen, Delibes, and Messager. For our part, we found more energy in the Danish dances, more grace in the English—though Mr. Andersen certainly has his full share of that desirable attribute in a dancer's equipment. Mr. Haines, besides being very free and agile in his leaps and bounds, puts a distinguishing touch of dramatic character into his action. Miss Warburton, a light and dainty première danseuse, is, like her two companions, a very clever dancer. The pretty dresses and rose garlanded scenery made a charming picture. Mr. Alfred Haines, sen., conducted the orchestra for the ballet.

Mr. Tom Clare returns this week with three of his well-known songs; Coram brings Jerry once more to amuse everyone and to cause particular joy to military and ex-military members of the audience; and Nicol and Martin give a clever display of trick cycle riding. The Mogadors, champions with the club, and Terry Wilson, a light comedian and a capital singer, who made a success in a song contrasting ditties of to-day and the day before yesterday, are also in the bill.

THE PALLADIUM.

The famous musical-comedy star, Miss Gabrielle Ray, assisted by Leslie Barker, in dainty and artistic scenes, is appearing here this week. "In the Days of the Crinoline" is a delightful number, and the octette of child dancers adds considerably to the success of the scena. "Underneath the Wishing Moon" and "Jack o' Jingles" are other well appreciated songs. Mr. Leslie Barker scores with "Caroline"; he is a clever coon delineator and dancer. The "Pierrot and Pierrette" opening of Miss Ray and Mr. Barker is a capital introduction. J. W. Rickaby, the master of burlesque character comedy, makes a big hit with the favourite "Major-Gen. Worthington," and is equally successful in "Don't Want to See it Any More." That fine tenor, Eric Randolph, in his original act uses his beautiful voice to advantage in his vagabond number and "Those Two Eyes of Blue," and has a hearty reception.

George Mozart, most observant of comedians, always keeps his types of everyday life up to date. His soldier's farewell on and off the stage created the heartiest of laughter. Marie Dainton's clever imitations of Violet Loraine, Evelyn Laye Lupino Lane, and others were keenly enjoyed, and the Bros. Arnaut brought down the house with their musical and acrobatic novelties. These pantomimists are as funny as they are clever. Morny Cash, the Lancashire lad, gets every ounce of comedy out of "Wait Until We Have Another War," and his reception is of the heartiest. The Rios give their clever and novel gymnastic entertainment, and Ernie Lotinga and company in "Kings and Queens" are great favourites. Ernie as Corpl. Josser is responsible for rears of laughter.

VICTORIA PALACE.

Victoria Palace patrons are provided this week with a rich terpsichorean treat in that talented dancing act, Phil and Phlora. Their turn takes the form of an elaborate pierrot and pierrette scena, wherein both artists prove themselves not only to be dancers of flawless technique, but also to possess much ability as mimics. This act, which ingeniously blends acrobatic dancing with poetic significance, gains a big reception, with a special call in front of "the tabs." Mr. Ted Marcel is a bright and merry comedian, who creates much hilarity by his efforts to sing a song with a pair of roller skates on his feet. He can, of course, really skate beautifully, which anon he proceeds to prove.

That well-written sketch, "An April Shower," is as popular at the Victoria Palace as it was at the Palladium a few weeks since. Its direct and human message and its pawky humour appeal to every class of audience. Mr. Alexander Carr's portrayal of the self-sacrificing Jew being one of the neatest character-cameos to be seen.

The popular comedian, Mr. Ernie Mayne, of course comes in for the very heartiest of receptions, with his humorous songs delivered in his inimitable manner. A great favourite is Mr. Mayne. The programme is completed by Mr. Leo Bliss, comedian; Norah Blaney and Gwen Farrar, in their popular act; and the Three Equals, herculean equilibrists.

THE EUSTON.

Prominent in the Euston's well-varied programme this week, Harry Reynolds and Ethel Durbin, the British-American dancers, provide a sensational exhibition of ball-room and other varieties of the art of terpsichore. Some of their whirlwind feats are brilliantly executed, and the audience was held enthralled by their very daring. One of the best acts of its kind was the general consensus of opinion on Monday evening. Eddie Lyons and Joe Fay are old favourites here, and the warmth of their reception evidenced the fact very clearly. Slightly to vary a familiar quotation, "It isn't what they do so much as the funny way they do it," seems perhaps the best comment to make on their amusing song and cross-talk and lively dancing act.

The ballad of late years has once more come into its own, and The Balladmongers, a pair of talented singers who confine their efforts to this class of number, made a good choice in selecting "A Song of Long Ago," "Canterbury Bells," and the ever-popular "God Send You Back To Me." Their rendering of the latter in particular evoked much enthusiasm from the house. One does not often come across two such good sketches in the same evening's bill as "At Ten O'Clock To-Morrow," an hilarious farce in which Alex Mee scored a great hit, and "The Disorderly Room." The latter is by now quite a classic of its kind, and Lawrence Barclay, Tommy Handley, and the rest of the little company played Eric Blore's brilliant musical absurdity for all it was worth, and kept the house in fits of merriment. Then, to complete, there are G. W. Hunter, telling his yarns in his inimitable style; The Four Swifts, in the club juggling act; and Anita Hayes, a dainty little comedienne, in taking songs.

PINSBURY PARK EMPIRE.

Hilda Glyder, the clever and popular comedienne and dancer, is here this week, and is heartily acclaimed for her delightful rendering of some capital numbers. Described as featuring "Languid Love by Moonlight on the Nile," the episode entitled "Pharaoh," presented by William Burr and Daphne Hope, is of a gorgeous character, while the bright dialogue affords many moments of delightful contrast. The chief actors are supported in this piece by Barry Linden and the Florida Quartette.

Daisy Taylor, the popular Scottish comedienne, was a great favourite with her cleverly rendered songs, and she is easily amongst those one would like to hear again and again. Victor King, as "The Vocal Fellow," scored several notable hits, and his musical medleys are distinctly clever. In addition to possessing a voice of considerable power and purity, his art is of the well-finished variety.

Scotch Kelly proved himself an inimitable comedian, the antics and frivolities of a diminutive tipster capturing much tribute from the Goddess of Laughter.

Bromley Carter, entertainer, "In Reconstructions," by Bert Lee, added greatly to the enjoyment of the evening, while a comedy trapeze act, performed by the Paris Trio, rounded off a bill of delightful variety.

COLLINS'S.

The popular comedian, Pimple, is here this week with his company in "Fourteen Days' C.B.," that funny burlesque. This skit on Army methods is a scream throughout, and the way in which Pimple gets his own back on the sergeant-major secures cordial approval from the audience. Joe Evans as Sergeant-Major Forts keeps up the part well. Eric Hamer as Captain Ruffles, Lilian Poole as his fiancée, and Tom Collet and Frank Thickett as the escort, all work well as Inn-makers.

Ethel Leslie, in smart principal boy attire, sings sweetly "There's a Welcome in Someone's Heart," her other contribution being the popular ballad, "Plaything," rendered with piquancy and expression. Clark and West are certainly, as the programme states, two of the best. The piano playing and singing of "I Want a Boy," and "By Jingo," are full of vivacity, charm, and smartness. The violin playing is most effective and varied, and in addition, there is clever dancing by West.

Zendra, hand dancer and equilibrist, does some astonishing tricks, including clog-dancing on his hands, jumping and balancing on one finger and a thumb, &c. Tom and Marie Motramo, in their comedy musical act, keep the audience greatly amused, and W. H. Brand, the eccentric baritone, in "Beware," is a great success. The skating Nelsons give a novel and clever speciality act, and incidentally a capital exposition of roller-skating. Jock Mills, in song and story, is much enjoyed, and his monologue of 1914 and 1921 is specially good.

STRATFORD EMPIRE.

A capital programme is being presented here this week. Whit Cunliffe, with his new number, "All For the Ladies," is heartily applauded. The popular bright and breezy comedian also sings "Seven and Six" and "Riding In a Charabanc." In the latter he gives the chorus several times in various dialects. Gene Garrard makes a great success, his song, "I Got Married This Morning," being much enjoyed. One of the most delightful of comediennes is Miss Daisy Wood. Her numbers, "Oh! Mister Music Professor," "When You Make Love To Me," and "If You're Going Back To Dixie," are rendered with much charm and vivacity, and she is heartily acclaimed. Frank A. Nolan and Louis Holt in the vaudeville sing-song scena are great favourites. Their numbers include "Saskatchewan," "Give Me the Seaside," and "Oh! Johnny Callaghan." A character-study from Dickens is heartily applauded. Miss Nellie Allen, who has a fine soprano voice, gives three songs in most sympathetic and expressive manner. Her numbers were "Oh! Moon of My Delight," "Dear Old Pal of Mine," and "Ave Maria." Harry Taft, the new M.P., causes much merriment with his remarks concerning the rights of the working-man. His whistling of "Stars and Stripes" as a finale is clever. The Kitchen Comedy Four give several songs with much gusto. Their singing is good, while their fun is fast and furious. The programme is completed by De Wynne Bros., the sangfroid athletes, whose clever feats are heartily applauded.

CAMBERWELL PALACE.

Miss Hetty King, who heads the strong bill at the Camberwell Empire this week, gives her well-known male impersonations of a naval officer, soldier, and swell, with her usual artistry and success. La Veen and Cross, as Julius and Brutus, interpret Roman sports and pastimes in the days of Cæsar in an irresistibly droll and humorous manner, their living statuary burlesques being very funny. Scot Gibson's number, "A Land Fit for Heroes," was heartily acclaimed, whilst his original humorous stories created much merriment. Mr. Syd Walker was very popular with his housing shortage sketch, and the number, "Who Put the Bricks in Brixton." Mlle. Dumorski, the operatic lady violinist, fully deserved the loud applause accorded her playing of popular airs on the violin. Carlton, in his laughable sketch, "Hypnotism," Norman White's clever Musical Mystery, and the Sparkling Mozelles, in choice songs and dances, complete the capital programme.

"THE NEW POOR."

Comedy sketch, by Stanley Logan, produced at the Kennington Theatre, on Monday, May 23.

Mr. Dawlish ..... Mr. Stanley Logan
Jim Leech ..... Mr. Edward Foster
Mrs. Dawlish ..... Miss Mabel Green

Judged by its reception on Monday night, this cleverly written and well-produced sketch is ensured of a successful future. The plot deals in an amusing manner with a noble lord and his lady, who are compelled to let their house in Mayfair to one of the "nouveau riche," Jim Leech, whilst they engage themselves as Mr. and Mrs. Dawlish, the butler and housemaid, respectively. Mr. Stanley Logan and Miss Mabel Green, as the noble butler and housemaid make the utmost of the comic possibilities of the situation; whilst Mr. Edward Foster, as the vulgar and overbearing Jim Leech is also responsible for an excellent performance.

"TRAPPED."

Dramatic Sketch, Presented by Julius R. Day, at the Empire, Woolwich, on Monday, May 16, 1921.

The scene of this dramatic and smartly-played sketch is the private room of the manager of a theatrical company. A would-be chorus-girl calls at the office, the manager of which is disguised as a woman. Saying that she is acting on behalf of the manager, the woman makes suggestions to the chorus girl as to disrobing, and finally the chorus-girl discloses her identity, turning out to be a detective in disguise; a smart capture being effected, hence the title "Trapped." There is some smart and pithy dialogue in the playlet, and the popular song, "The Hills of Donegal," is admirably rendered.

With the exception of the police officer, who makes his appearance in the finale, there are only two in the cast, Billy Hicknott giving an excellent portrayal of the theatrical manager, and Cicely Stafford being responsible for a clever impersonation as the chorus-girl, the transformation to the detective being very smartly done.

THE "VI" OF AUSTRALIA.

A CHAT WITH MINNIE LOVE.

The cast of principals in the successful Wylie-Tate revue, "The Passing Show of 1921," includes Miss Minnie Love, who, had she not been "excused," must surely have established herself a great West-End favourite well over six years ago.

Born in Bristol, educated at the well-known Fishponds College, Miss Love made her stage debut at the Theatre Royal there. She then went straight into musical comedy, beginning with "The Balkan Princess," and after that was a great provincial favourite, playing all the Gracie Leigh parts in the George Edwardes' touring companies that succeeded with successes like "The Quaker Girl" and "The Dancing Mistress."

MISS MINNIE LOVE.

"Then," said Miss Love to an "Era" interviewer recently, "I signed a contract to go to Australia, but two years before I could sail, being for another two years under a prior one. This was an excellent prospect, and I accordingly made my last English appearance—as principal boy in 'Humpty Dumpty,' at the Plymouth Royal—in highest spirits.

Disappointment.

"But woman is born to chop and change, and a fortnight before the boat left I—I got homesick! For Mr. Albert de Courville came along and offered me a contract for his then new Hippodrome show! Of course I couldn't take it—Miss Violet Loraine had the part instead—and off I sailed.

"Since then I seem to have played 'Vi' parts till I—well, I became known as the 'Vi Loraine of Australia.' I've sung all her songs 'down under'—and played her 'Bing Boys' Emma for twelve months on end! And then Delysia—I've had her 'As You Were' lines! And other people's too, in shows like 'Buzz-Buzz' and 'Tails Up'! Now I've come back to see all these 'stars'—and I find 'Vi' getting married and Delysia not in London any more."

Asked if she would be likely to succeed Miss Loraine when the latter entered into the married state and left the stage, Miss Love replied that Miss Loraine would in any event have to retire first, "which tragedy nobody with any love for English revue could allow to happen without tremendous efforts to prevent it!"

Adventures.

When "down under" Miss Love had several interesting adventures. "We were chased, to begin with," she said, "nearly all the way—from South Africa, where I went first, for six months, from England—by the notorious "Emden," which was sunk ten days after our arrival.

"Another excitement involved a Bendigo gold mine. I got stuck, with Barry Lupino (then playing with me in pantomime) and a miner, half-way down in a cage! The only concern of Barry and me was that we might not be back in time for the evening show. It didn't occur to us that, if help didn't come (happily it did), we might be in the cage for several days!"

"HOUDINI'S" ROPE TIES.

"Magical Rope Ties and Escapes," by "Houdini" (British edition) is published by Will Goldston, Ltd., 14, Green-street, Leicester-square, at 5s. 6d. In this volume the artist whose sensational feats have rendered him famous all over the world, gives full instructions, illustrated by numerous photographs and line drawings, how to tie knots in ropes and how to escape when bound. Houdini assures his readers in a Foreword that at least the majority of the ties may be acquired with but little practice. He adds: "The ties given are of two distinct types, namely, those adapted to use in spiritualistic work, and those intended for the escape artist. For the former a cabinet is usually necessary, and if not absolutely necessary it is better to use one, as it lends an essential atmosphere to the séance; but in straight escapes the cabinet hopelessly weakens the effect. Personally, in making escapes from ropes, I have not resorted to the use of the cabinet for more than twenty years past, preferring to make challenge tests and prove that I can free myself in less time than is required to secure me."

Houdini has rarely failed to make his escape within the specified time, but he relates how on one memorable occasion, at the New York Hippodrome, during the Liberty Loan Drive, a committee of Navy boys gave him the tussle of his life by tying him to an oaken kitchen chair in their own peculiar style. He thinks they must have practised all day, "for it required only nine minutes to lash me to the chair, and struggling as I did with might and main, it was twelve minutes before I was 'chairless,' but the mighty audience applauded and laughed good-naturedly at my discomfiture."

Those who are ambitious of emulating the feats of Houdini, or others who are only anxious to know "how it is done," cannot do better than invest in this neatly got up little book.

"CARMINETTA" AT THE CHELSEA PALACE.

The theatrical season at this favourite variety palace opened on Monday evening with a performance of the popular comic opera "Carminetta." Presented by Mr. C. A. Stephenson (by arrangement with Messrs. C. B. Cochran and E. Lewis Waller), the opera went with a swing, and the many tuneful numbers were rapturously encored. Mr. C. A. Stephenson was of invaluable service as Panelli, and the artist-manager received material assistance from Miss Vivian Carter, who sang with pleasing effect, and made a handsome and alluring Spanish beauty in the title-rôle. Mr. Kimber Phillips was admirably cast as Escamillo, and Mr. Swinton Mills made a breezy and bright Ensign O'Hara, and was heard to advantage in "The Merry Farewell," with chorus of officers. Mr. Pat O'Shea (Frasquita) sang well, and Miss Norah Green danced with agility and charm; as did also Miss Violet Graham in the second act.

Special mention must be made of the delightful rendering of the "Habanara" by Vivian Carter and C. A. Stephenson, and also the former artist in the pretty "Farewell" song. Dave Walker, C. V. Rosini, and the many other members of the cast all helped in the ensemble. The large chorus and orchestra were admirably controlled by Mr. Geo. A. Pratt. "Carminetta" was prettily mounted and staged.

"KICK OFF."

Revue, in Five Scenes, Book by Dick Ray, Lyrics by Julian Ross, Music by C. G. V. Fentiman; Produced at Rotherhithe Hippodrome on Monday, May 23.

There is little connected plot in Mr. Dick Ray's new revue, but there are many fine singing and dancing numbers and some excellent comedy. It is a beautiful production, the scenery, dresses and uniforms being first-class.

Mr. Dick Ray is himself principal comedian, and he kept the audience in merry mood throughout. Nothing funnier can be imagined than his football song, and in the numerous new gags and scenas with which the show abounds he scores a decided triumph. Pretty Miss Florence Thurston charms all with her delightful singing and dancing. Her "Ostrich Glide" song and dance and other numbers, and particularly her dainty dancing in the last scene, are worthy of the highest praise. Mr. Ernest Ludlow makes a fine brigand, and uses an excellent voice in "Omaha," "The Open Road," and other numbers. A capital dame character-study is given by Mr. George Collins, whose song, "Armentieres," is very popular. Mr. Eddie Bell, an excellent light comedy artist, sings "Mr. Cupid," and joins Miss Thurston and Mr. John Cullen in some smart dances. Miss Ethel Tyson, a pretty and charming soubrette, has a good number, "Cupid's Airship," with a striking aeroplane tableaux by the company, and she also scores with Mr. Fentiman, the conductor, in a song (the latter's own composition), "If My Dream Comes True." Miss May Shill uses her beautiful soprano voice to advantage in a "Dixie" number with chorus, and also in the "Golden Dawn" duet with Mr. Ernest Ludlow. Mlle. Sheba's violin selections are much enjoyed. Mr. Alfred Tilbury, Mr. Jack Leeds and Miss Marie Daly complete the cast, and mention must be made of the excellent chorus.

BRANSBY WILLIAMS AT BIRKENHEAD.

"DAVID COPPERFIELD."

In Three Acts, Adapted from Charles Dickens' novel, by Walter Frederick Evelyn; Presented at the Hippodrome, Birkenhead, on May 16.

Miss Betsy Trotwood ..... Miss Minnie Watersford
Mr. Wickfield ..... Mr. William Lorrimer
Agnes ..... Miss Irene Sinclair
David Copperfield ... Mr. Frederick Keen
Uriah Heep ..... Mr. Clifford Spurr
Steerforth ..... Mr. Arthur Chisholm
Mr. Micawber ... Mr. Bransby Williams
Mrs. Micawber ..... Miss Gladys Dale
Mrs. Gummidge ..... Mr. Mamie Thorpe
Emily ..... Miss Mary Christine
Ham ..... Mr. Wilfred Lauceston
Dan'l Peggotty ... Mr. Bransby Williams
Littimer ..... Mr. David Curtis
Mrs. Crupp ..... Miss Diana Fielding
Traddles ..... Mr. Wyndham Clare
Servant Girl ... Miss Kathleen Carlton
Mrs. Steerforth .. Miss Diana Fielding
Rosa Dartle ..... Miss Mamie Thorpe

Mr. Bransby Williams inaugurated the third week of a highly successful season with a very praiseworthy production of a capital version of the well-known story of David Copperfield, admittedly one of the best of Dickens' novels. The irresistibly amusing character of Mr. Micawber is well suited to the ability of Mr. Williams, who played the part with most gratifying success, in addition to contributing a powerful rendering of the totally divergent character of Peggotty. Uriah Heep was cleverly pourtrayed by Mr. Clifford Spurr. Mr. Frederick Keen was a thoroughly satisfactory David Copperfield, and Mr. Arthur Chisholm acquitted himself with distinction as Steerforth. Miss Mamie Thorpe enacted the dual rôles of Rosa Dartle and Mrs. Gummidge with care and effect. Ham was forcibly delineated by Mr. Wilfred Lauceston. Miss Betsy Trotwood was well played by Miss Minnie Watersford. Mr. William Lorrimer was a capital Mr. Wickfield, and Miss Irene Sinclair, as Agnes, Miss Mary Christine as Emily, and Miss Gladys Dale as Mrs. Micawber, were all excellent.

The production was staged with taste and every care to detail, and the play was received with marked approval.

"SLEEPYDALE JUNCTION."

This amusing comedy scena, written by Ronald Jeans, was produced by Tom Dodd and company, at the Kennington, on Monday night. The scene is laid at Sleepydale Station. The stationmaster's hobby is the keeping of fowls—in the signal box, on the line, and in every other animatable place in the vicinity of the railway station. A frantic, would-be lady passenger, who wishes to get a train to town where she is to be married, a busy city man, and a somnolent old lady are other characters, who add to the fun of the piece. Mr. Tom Dodd plays the part of the old stationmaster in a clever and humorous manner and is ably supported in the laughter-making by a capital company.

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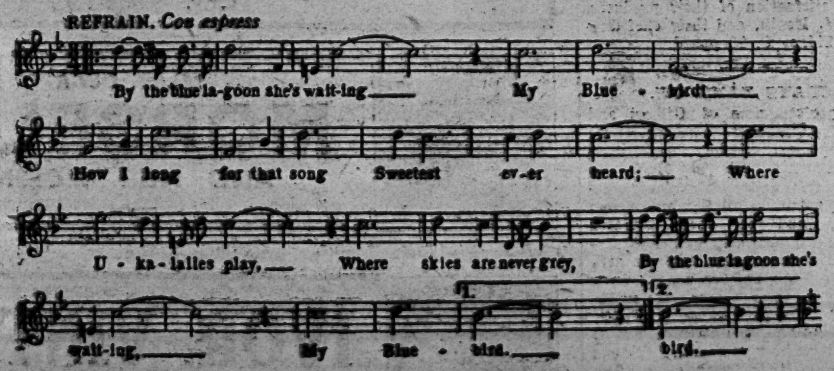
By the blue la-goon she's wait-ing My Blue - bird
How I long for that song Sweetest ev-er heard; Where
U - ka-lalies play, Where skies are never grey, By the blue lagoon she's
1. 2.
wait-ing, My Blue - bird. bird.

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PROVINCIAL CENTRES.

(Continued from page 5.)

ROCHDALE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Wm. Robeson; G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling; A. M., Mr. Norman M. Robinson.—The delights of that charming musical comedy, "The Country Girl," are again being sampled by the patrons of this popular place of amusement, which is being presented by Mr. F. G. Lloyd's Co. Miss Ethaline Thorne won golden opinions as Nan.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—P., Jackson's Amusements, Ltd.; M., Mr. Jas. Jackson.—A specially hearty welcome is accorded J. P. Ling, the clever comedian and mimic, who is a Roohdalian; Albert Foster and Ninon delight with comedy and song; Ontaro excels as a juggler and top spinner; Harold Heath is a capital comedian and dancer; Charlieri Bros. are expert players on the melodeon; Dolly Robson sings tunefully; and the Michael Richardini Troupe give a novelty performance.

EMPIRE HALL.—P., Jackson's Amusements, Ltd.; M., Mr. Albert Jones.—Ninette, the pictorial poseuse, provides the varieties here.

Boots, The Chemists, 42, Drake-street; 59-61, Yorkshire-street

SOUTH SHIELDS.

MARINA THEATRE.—L. & R. M., Capt. Julian Bainbridge; Mus. D., Mr. R. A. Stoker.—Capt. Bainbridge opens the fourth week of his stock season with "The Octoroon." The company, which have already proved themselves very popular with South Shields audiences, include Capt. and Mrs. Bainbridge, Wilfred Beckwith, Juan D'Alberti, Wilfred Protheroe, Frank Gibson, Miss Eva Elwes, Isobel Hunt, and Mrs. A. B. Bell, while Mr. Arthur B. Bell acts as producer and general stage director.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—P., South Shields Empire Palace Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Richard Thornton; R. M., Mr. Edwin Winter; Mus. D., Mr. Joseph Campbell.—A particularly strong bill includes Fred Barnes, light comedian; Gilbert Payne, supported by a clever company, including Edward Chester in the comedy episode, "Clicked Again"; Lily Morris, comedienne; Fred Sylvester, the equilibristic manipulator; Fred Curran, comedian; Tom E. Varley, in musical act; and Peakman and Zella, in novelty act.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—P., Borough Theatre Co. (South Shields), Ltd.; Mus. D., Mr. James Todd.—Jimmy Jewel presents the screaming sketch, "Idle-itis"; and pictures.

Boots, The Chemists, 39, King-street.

SUNDERLAND.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Mr. Richard Thornton; G. M., Mr. Harry Esden; R. M., Mr. Richard L. Griffiths; Mus. D., Mr. H. Mitchell.—The present is the 333rd consecutive week of Mr. Albert Lember's tenancy of this theatre, which he has run during the whole of the period covered with a stock company. The play is "Discharged with Honour," a military drama with a good grip.

KING'S.—P., Messrs. Thompson and Collins; R. M., Mr. E. Jefferies; Mus. D., Mr. J. Jones.—Pictures; and Tom Payne, violinist, who is also the world's amateur champion pedestrian; and Kitty Sinclair with Harry Dalva in a song and dance scena.

EMPIRE.—P., Sunderland Palace Co.; M. D., Mr. Richard Thornton; G. M., Mr. Harry Esden; R. M., Mr. A E. Barnes; Mus. D, Mr. H. Elliott-Smith.—Ruth Rudd and Leo Minto in a sketch entitled "The Girl with a Smile"; Harry J. Corners, instrumentalist and vocalist; Peter Barnard, comedian; Madge Wood, male impersonator; The Sisters Vincent, in a French comedy equilibristic novelty; Eileen and Marjorie, juvenile entertainers; and The Kikata Family of Japanese jugglers.

PALACE.—P., Mr. A. G. Hamilton; R. M., Mr. W. Gillespie; Mus. D., Mr. Frank Hubble.—Pictures and varieties by Clara Coverdale's Nine Dainty Dots and Eddie Brown, versatile entertainer.

Boots, The Chemists, 62, Fawcett-street.

YORK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. Percy Hutchison; A. M., Mr. Follett Pennell.—Mr. Percy Hutchison and company in "A Pair of Sixes."

EMPIRE.—M. D., Mr. William Peacock; R. M., Mr. Bertram Sinclair.—Mr. Harry Russell presents "Bright and Breezy."

Boots, The Chemists, 30, Coney-street.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—M. D., Mr. Fred W. Warden; R. M., Mr. James M. McCann; Mus. D., Mr. S. P. Swanton.—Owing to the restricted transport service between England and Ireland, the O'Mara Opera Company found it impossible to commence their engagement here until last night (Tuesday), when "Il Trovatore" formed the attraction.

BALL-ROOM BREVITIES.

Re-enter the "Shimmy."

Signs are not wanting that the "Shimmy" is again to be popular in the ball room. The variations of this form of step are almost without number, but Signor Casanay, the South African dancing teacher, seems to know them all. We saw him recently dancing at a well-known club, and the intricacy of his foot-work was positively bewildering.

New Band for Murray's.

"Murray's" now rejoices in a new band, Mr. S. L. V. Ash's "Royal." This band has just been complimented by Miss Marjorie Moss and M. Fontana, the well-known dancers—a testimonial, indeed. Congratulations to Mr. S. H. Ash, manager of Murray's, upon the success of his son's band.

At the Empress Rooms.

The Thé and Dinner Dances at the Empress Rooms still go on right merrily. There is a new hostess, Miss Gypsey Strudwick, who comes from Madame Vacanis, whilst Murray Pilcer's Band is as popular as ever with the enthusiastic Kensington devotees of the dance.

NO PLAGIARISM.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE ERA."

Sir,—Some months ago I constructed a farcical comedy, based upon the monkey-gland theory, and as I now learn that a play having the thyroid gland for its centra idea is being produced in the provinces, I desire to explain the coincidence in order that I may not be accused of plagiarism at some future period.

London managers are so leisurely "considering" plays that the provinces get ahead of them!—Yours faithfully,

LEONARD SUMMERS.

London, W.,
May 24, 1921.

Mr. I. Danter, who for many years lived in Porthcawl in retirement, died on Thursday last.

LONDON SUBURBAN THEATRES.

ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

Miss Ruby Kimberley is this week presenting Mrs. F. J. Kimberley's popular musical-comedy revue, "Eastern Nights," and on this—its third visit—meeting with the usual success. Miss Ruby Kimberley and Mr. Will Harris lead a large cast, with a powerful chorus and orchestra, and the many spectacular scenes add to the enjoyment. The comic element is still a feature of this bright and pleasing show presented by the versatile Kimberley family.

WIMBLEDON THEATRE.

Miss Jessie Rose is presenting here this week that old favourite musical comedy, "San Toy," with her own company. She herself sustains the title rôle, and proves herself as pleasing an actress as she is a charming vocalist. Miss Jessie Starling was also highly successful as Oudley, the lady's maid, and soon became a prime favourite with the audiences, as she justly deserved. Miss Doris Delza took the part of Poppy satisfactoryily, and Miss Winifred Nathan made a stately Ko Fan. Mr. Victor Thornton was a handsome young Captain Preston, and sang "Homeland" in the second act with much success. Mr. C. Winter Coppin was excellent as the Mandarin, Yen How, while Mr. Arthur P. Jackson was a typical British Consul as Sir Bingo Preston. Mr. Edgar Stanley was an imposing and dignified Emperor of China, and Mr. J. M. Kennedy merits commendation as Sing Hi, as does also Mr. George Cunningham as Lieut. Tucker, and Mr. C. A. Butler as Fo Hop, the student. Last, but not least, Mr. Cecil Friedlander was a very humorous and diverting Li, and caused plenty of laughter whenever he was on the stage. There was a large chorus of over fifty, who sang and acted with vivacity. Mr. Frederick W. Courtenay conducted an augmented orchestra, while the entire production was under the direction of Mr. George Taylor.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

"Toto" is the attraction here this week. The name part is played by Miss Gwen Maude, who works very strenuously and fully deserved the great reception accorded her. The Charles Morel of Mr. Stanley Kirk is a fine foil to this lady and his singing and acting are capital. Miss Irene Alexander, as Alix Morel, the wife of Morel, acts charmingly. Good work is done by Mr. William Nixon as Mons. Jollette, Mr. Charles Cornock as Philip Brevannes, and Mr. Harry Kendall as Ernest le Maitre. Mr. Edgar Taylor scores as Marcel, a dancer, and Messrs. Cecil Brandon and Leslie Fairfax ably represent the school boys, Gaston and Pierre. Other characters being entrusted to Mr. George King, as Lucian, Miss Kitty Dance, as Madame Jollette, Miss Kathleen Collins, as Mlle. Elise, and Miss Lily Nicholson, as Mlle. Estelle, with Miss Yvonne Hirondelles as principal dancer.

Mr. Fred Farren has arranged some very pretty dances, and the chorus and orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Alexander Humphreys, rendered the music most successfully.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

SCRAPPERS.—*The lady mentioned married the second-named gentleman, the marriage being afterwards dissolved.*

C. M.—*We have not heard of the lady for years. Are under the impression that she went to America.*

WILL LONG.—*G. H. Macdermott died on May 8, 1901, aged 56. In addition to "If Ever There Was a Damned Scamp," written by Henry Pettitt, and that popular favourite, "We Don't Want to Fight, But By Jingo If We Do," other of the great Mac's successful songs were "I'll Stroke You With a Feather," "How Did You Lose Your Arm," "The Maid and the Magpie," "Says Aaron to Moses," "Pa and Ma," "Old Familiar Faces," and "Half-past Twelve." His best and most successful music-hall sketch was "Our Lads in Red," presented at the Canterbury.*

E. G.—*In the "Aladdin" pantomime at Drury Lane, 1909-10, Wilkie Bard was the Widow Twankey and George Graves the Abanazar, Aladdin being played by Miss Marie George and Princess Badroalbadour by Miss Ida Rene.*

"THE PASSING SHOW."—*Basil Hallam (Commander Basil Hallam Radford), who appeared in "The Passing Show" at the Palace in 1914, was prevented by an old injury to his foot from joining an infantry regiment, and entered the Kite Balloon Section of the Royal Flying Corps. He met his death by falling from his balloon while on observation duty near the enemy lines in France in August, 1916, aged 27.*

J. W. W.—*Mme. Sarah Bernhardt appeared at the London Coliseum on Jan. 3, 1916, in "Les Cathédrales."*

H. H.—*Barry Sullivan, the tragedian, died May 3, 1891, aged 67.*

A LOVER OF VARIETY.—*The programme for the Oxford for the week you mention, according to the advertisement in "The Era" of April 13, 1901, was as follows:—Dan Leno, George Robey, George Mozart, Harry Randall, Lil Hawthorn, Great Everhart, Rose Hamilton, Cliff Ryland, The Zanettos, Sisters Sprighlly, Binns and Binns, Ada Willoughby, Volti and Ray, Lina Verdi, Lily Enalish, George Lashwood, Alma Abney, Dolly Harmer, Vera Vere, The Glenroys, and Gibbons' Bio. Tableau. The manager at the time was Albert Gilmer. Dan Leno was also appearing at the Canterbury and the Tivoli.*

CECIL F.—*"Little Teddy Brown Down at Margate" is probably the song you are thinking of. It was sung by Harry Randall.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS

DEATH.

TOM OLMAR-WHEELER, Triple-bar Artist, who passed away April 28, after a long illness, at his residence, 6, Claremont-cottages, West-street, Erith, Kent. He leaves a devoted wife to mourn his loss. American papers please copy.

YOUNG.—Ted, on May 17, at Crosby Lodge Nursing Home, after a long illness, patiently borne. Interred Tooting Cemetery, May 21.

IN MEMORIAM.

ROUTLEDGE.—In tenderest, proudest memory of my most dearly-loved husband, CALVERT ROUTLEDGE, Captain Loyal North Lancashire Regiment. Died on Service, May 22, 1916. Also to commemorate his birthday, May 29.

LE FRE.—In loving memory of our dear brother Syd. Deeply regretted by Irene, Percy, and Eric.

LE FRE.—In loving memory of our dear son Syd, who passed away on May 16, 1919.

And sometimes in the twilight gloom apart,
The tall trees whisper, whisper heart to heart,
From my fond lips the eager answers fall,
Thinking I hear you call.
From his sorrowing mother and father.

"THE DAWN OF HAPPINESS."

A Romantic Play, in Four Acts, Founded upon Ralph Rodd's story "Peril," Produced at the Theatre Royal, Stratford, on Monday, May 23.

Sheila Pretyman ..... Ida Dutton
Outram Goring ..... Will Ellythorne
Lady Eunice Mervain..Margaret Tueski
Gotthold Stein ..... Edwin Dodds
John Dill ..... George Owen
Ruth Day ..... Gertrude Hayton
Mrs. Hart-Harland ..Constance Medwyn
Gerald Hart ..... Bruce Whitton
A Detective ..... W. Bishop
Inspector Higgs ..... K. James
Mme. Dufour .....Olga D'Avricourt
Parsons ..... W. Plinge
A Warder ..... H. Wingard
A Convict ..... A. Hobson

This is an entirely new version of the play produced originally at the Dalston Theatre on June 26, 1916. Miss Constance Medwyn as Mrs. Hart-Harland finely depicted the heart-hunger of a bereaved mother. Mr. George Owen as the faithful steward, John Dill, was quiet and self-contained. Mr. Bruce Whitton, a comedian, actor and vocalist, as Gerald Hart won immediate success in a pathetic part; whilst Miss Gertrude Hayton was demure and interesting as Ruth Day, the daughter of the man who caused so much unhappiness. Mr. Will Ellythorne as Outram Goring, the designing nephew of Mrs. Hart-Harland, proved very clever in his rendering of the part. He was well supported by Miss Margaret Tueski as Lady Eunice Mervain, Goring's fiancée. Miss Ida Dutton was both merry and quaint as Sheila Pretyman, the housekeeper; whilst the humour of the play was greatly enhanced by the acting of Mr. Edwin Dodds in the part of Gotthold Stein, a dealer in curios. The minor parts had able exponents. Mlle. Olga D'Avricourt as Mme. Dufour sang in admirable style "Somebody's Mother" and other songs. Special music for the play had been composed and arranged by Mr. Cuthbert Hawley.

DRAMATIC ART SCHOLARSHIPS.

L.C.C. CONDITIONS.

The London County Council is prepared to award two dramatic art scholarships tenable as from October, 1921, at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art, Gower-street, W.C. 1.

The scholarships will provide free tuition and in certain cases a money grant, as indicated in Schedule 3 on page 52 of the Council's Scholarships and Training of Teachers Handbook, which can be obtained either directly or through any bookseller from Messrs. P. S. King and Son, 2 and 4, Great Smith-street, Victoria-street, Westminster, S.W.

The scholarships will be awarded to students for a period of two years as from the age of 16 years who show special aptitude and promise for dramatic art. They are not restricted to pupils in attendance at L.C.C. schools or institutions.

Applicants must be recommended by the head master or head mistress of the school at which they are or were formerly in attendance. They will be interviewed and required to recite certain test pieces and to read one or more unseen passages from Shakespeare or some other author. If necessary the selected candidates may be required at some date subsequent to the interview to undergo an educational test consisting of (1) an English essay, (2) one of the following subjects: Arithmetic, a modern language, general knowledge.

Parents or guardians of candidates (who must be British subjects) must be resident within the area of the Administrative County of London.

Application Forms T. 2/263 may be obtained from the Education Officer (T. 2a), L.C.C. Education Offices, Victoria Embankment, W.C. 2, and must be returned not later than June 1, 1921.

MR. JULIAN WYLIE,
the Producer, rehearsing a crowd of girls in "The Peep-Show" at the London Hippodrome."

AMATEURS IN ACTION.

THE NORTH-WEST PLAYERS.

A worthy cause in the Society for the Prevention and Relief of Cancer was the beneficiary of a charity performance given at the Guildhall School of Music Theatre by the North-West Players. The pièce-de-résistance of the evening, Keble Howard's "The Cheerful Knave," though nominally a comedy, is plentifully besprinkled with farcical situations, and provides a pleasantly light and amusing evening's entertainment, besides being a play admirably suitable for amateur production. On the whole, it was well produced, although there was evidence here and there of lack of rehearsal. This was not, however, a very serious defect, a competent cast tackling the play in the right farcical spirit. As Lord Bacchus, the young peer constrained by his domineering mother to bury himself in his secluded country seat in order to write up the family history, Mr. Barclay Calcutt was pleasantly affable, and acted naturally, if at times a little indistinct in his words. Miss Nora Montague lent charm to the part of the girl who schemes to obtain the post of amanuensis to her lover. As a burglar with a sense of humour, in the name-part, Mr. Harold J. Ulph provided the best character-study of the evening. It is full of humorous opportunities that the actor was never slow to seize—altogether an excellent performance. Mrs. Alma Rolfe as the pompous Lady Bacchus, Miss Blanche Murray, Mr. Conrad Carter, and Mr. Lionel Calcutt, in other parts, all did good work.

"The Cheerful Knave" was preceded by Gertrude Jennings' playlet, "Fine Birds in a Cage," in which Mr. Victor Holmes as a Cockney workman, Mr. Conrad Carter as the Liftman, and Miss Blanche Murray as a distracted Duchess, particularly distinguished themselves.

THE NONDESCRIPT PLAYERS.

This club's rendering of "Miss Hook of Holland" at the Stanley Hall, South Norwood, was, on the whole, a good one, and the Warriors' Day Fund should reap a nice little sum as a result of the three shows.

Mr. Herbert Strudwick is mainly responsible for the success. He is a good comedian, and his ready wit and able personality saved many a situation. Mrs. Scott Turner as Sally has a pleasing soprano voice; her best effort perhaps was in "The Sleeping Canal" love duet with Mr. Charles years. Whitewood, a valiant bandmaster. Miss Vera Jenkins seemed rather inclined to overdo the part of Nina; her "Pink Petticoat" number, however, she rendered excellenly. Mr. Sydney McMurray as Simon Slinks opened somewhat weakly, but he made good later. Mr. Dudley Hutchinson lacked finish in his portrayal of the blustering Captain Adrian Paap, although he did well in his musical numbers. Miss Cissie Hood proved a most attractive Gretchen, a fine voice and considerable personal charm aiding her. Mr. Dennis Lee Smith sang well as Ludwig Schapps, and Messrs. J. H. Threlfall, C. W. Bowman, and D. G. Cunningham, and Misses Stella Wanastracht, Margery Kuhlmei, and E. Turner, as well as the orchestra and chorus, all acquitted themselves more or less to the satisfaction of their producer, Mr. Rupert M. Heath, and their chef d'orchestre, Mr. Sidney C. Sheppard.

BARCLAYS BANK O.S.

Excellent performances of Gilbert and Sullivan's "The Gondoliers" were given by Barclays Operatic Society on three evenings at the King's Hall, in Covent Garden, and on each occasion the comfortable little auditorium was packed, and on each occasion the audience was genuinely enthusiastic—not because its sweethearts and brothers were up on the stage, but because the work that was being done there was extraordinarily good. In most cases, of course, the work was good as for amateurs; but in some it would have been good with the artists involved earning their living at it. The principals, for instance, included Mr. G. F. Harwood (the Duke), Mr. A. D. Pierrepont (Luiz), Mr. Claude Coleby (Don Alhambra), Miss Violet Cabburn (the Duchess), Miss Janet Whyte (Casilda), and Mrs. T. C. Arnison (Inez), and here was a collection of no ordinary talent, when it came to speaking (very notably), acting, singing, and "looking the part" alike. All these ladies and gentlemen did eminent credit, not only to themselves, but to their producer, Mr. G. A. Seton.

The well-known Venetian Gondolier and Contadine choruses were equally good as wholes, and reflected equal credit; whilst one can in all conscience say for Mr. William Searle's orchestra of 25 that it brought out the "meaning" of the Sullivan music, none too easy here and there in this particular opera, as well as any other of its kind and constitution has done for

TERRY WILSON,
THE LIGHT COMEDY STAR.
This Week:—LONDON COLISEUM.
Next week—HIP., BRISTOL. All Coms.—OMNIBUS, L.V.T.A.

DAN ROLYAT
Supported by CLARICE & RENE CHESNEY
In New Scena, "A DRESSED UP AFFAIR."
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CHICK FARR
Coms.:—REEVES & LAMPORT.

HOWARD ROGERS
JUST HIMSELF.
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(Originally "Those Four Kids.")
Down on the Farm this week.
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In Coon Character Studies.
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The Unique Dancing . . . Humouresques.

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MORSELLI
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The Wanderin' Scot.
This Week, HIPPO., BALHAM TWO VACANCIES THIS YEAR.
Coms., MICHAEL LYON, 10-11, Jermyn Street, London, S.W.

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The Original Vagabond Tenor.
NO VACANCIES.
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"Top of the League" FOOTBALL GIRLS
No "KID" about the Brand New Act. Smart young Ladies who "DRAW" and "SCORE" with song. Successes from "KICK-OFF" to end of "MATCH"-less Show. Entire Repertoire by Producer and Manager, ARCHIE MILLS, 168, Gordon Road, Nottingham.
Wanted—June 13th, 20th. Thanks Reynolds, Aytoun, for work.

THE ANGLO-FRENCH CLOWN
NONI
EMPIRE, HACKNEY. Agent, G. BAUER.

NEXT WEEK'S CALLS.

MONDAY, MAY 30, 1921.

The Editor relies upon the good faith of managers and others, and cannot accept responsibility with regard to any inaccuracies or changes which may be made in the calls.

BILL MATTER FOR JUNE 20 NOW DUE.

ALBANY WARD THEATRES, LTD.

(Note.—Rehearsal at all theatres at 1. All artists must attend.)

BRIDGWATER PALACE. — Angel Bianco.

SALISBURY PALACE.—"Our Liz" Co., Adelaide Gretton and Pianist.

WEYMOUTH JUBILEE HALL.—Will Garland's Co. in "All Black."

YEOVIL PALACE.—Mary Gold and Partner, Carrodus.

HARRY BAWN CIRCUIT.

EDMONTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 4).—Archie Pitt presents "Mr. Tower of London" revue.

RAMSGATE PAVILION (rehearsal, 1).—The Bellinis, The Cadenzas, and company as booked.

BOSTOCK TOUR.

IPSWICH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 2).—Vasco, Jack Williams and Co., Lawrence Glen, Larry Lewis, Violet Levy, Charley and Irene Vesty, Daring Dinnies.

IPSWICH LYCEUM THEATRE.—Leila Zillwood's Repertoire Company.

NORWICH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 2).—Levaine and Lawrence present "Oh! Betsy" revue.

NORWICH THEATRE ROYAL. — Carlton Wallace's Repertoire Company.

PAISLEY RINK PALACE (rehearsal, 12).—Hayes and Finch, Fenton Bros., Nina and Nora.

KENNEDY CIRCUIT.

(Rehearsal, 12.30.)

DUDLEY OPERA HOUSE.—I.V.T.A. present "Lads of the Village."

WEST BROMWICH EMPIRE.—Gilbert Hart's revue, "The Candy Girl."

WEST BROMWICH OLYMPIA.—Jack Williams, "Irish Eyes Are Smiling."

WEST BROMWICH THEATRE ROYAL.—Gerrald Heather and Leah Corentez Rep. Co.

LONDON SYNDICATE HALLS.

(See Page 19.)

LONDON THEATRES OF VARIETIES, LTD.

CAMBERWELL PALACE (rehearsal, 12).—Jack and Evelyn, Arturo Bernardi, Versatile Three, Benson Gray, Harry Bedford, Winifred Ward, Fred Keeton, Melody Makers.

CLAPHAM GRAND (rehearsal, 12). — Joe Hayman presents "Jack in the Box."

COLLINS'S MUSIC HALL (rehearsal, 12).—Victoria Monks, Tony Raglan, Harry Ford, W. H. Brand, Evelyn May and Sister, Ivor Vinter, Daly and Marr.

CROYDON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Hilda Glyder, Irma Lorraine, Vernon Watson, Mooney and Holbein, Spence and Jocelyn, Austin Rudd, Mollie Butler, Sadler-Klein Quartette.

HAMMERSMITH PALACE (rehearsal, 12).—Billy Merson, Rinaldo, Harry Claff, Rolf Slater, Jock Mills, Beryl Riggs, Ethel Leslie, Esta Stella.

HOLBORN EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Ernest Hastings, Kharum, Billy Reeves and Co., Hilda Glyder, Rolf Slater, Terry's Juveniles, Vera and Russell Wray, Chas. Whittle, Three Laurels.

ILFORD HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Harry Day presents "Jingles."

ISLINGTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Harry Weldon, Eric Randolph, Dainty Dancs, Rosinias, Dora Dare, Lloyd and Montrose, Haidee's Marionettes.

KILBURN EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Lew Lake presents "Too Many Girls."

LEWISHAM HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12). — Pimple and Co., Vernon Watson, Arthur Ferriss, Ray Wallace, S. W. Wyndham, John Donald, Ringle Bros., Lucille Benstead.

PALLADIUM (rehearsal, 11).—Gabrielle Ray, Bros. Arnaut, Maidie Scott, George Bass, Manny and Roberts, Sam Barton, Five Jovers, Derra de Moroda.

POPLAR HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Karno's "Mumming Birds," Terry Twins, Nixon Grey, Mlle. Dumorski, Audrey Knight, Jose de Moraes, Gertie Hall, W. H. Brand.

PUTNEY HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Albert Chevalier presents "My Old Dutch."

SHOREDITCH OLYMPIA (rehearsal, 12).—Hetty King, Cooper and Lait, Arthur Woodville, Maggie Benson, Hal Wright, Ernie Roma, Jose Baptiste, Miller Sutcliffes.

WILLESDEN HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Marie Lloyd, Auntie, Billy Rowland, Marie Courtney, Poluski and Mott, The Rios, Rich and Galvin, Chinko and Kaufman.

WOOLWICH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Gertie Gitana, Victor Kelly, Nixon Grey, The Mozelles, Billy Simpson, Christine Roy.

MACNAGHTEN TOUR.

(Rehearsal at all halls at 12 o'clock.)

BLACKBURN. — Melt and Bray, Ethel Castaldini, Juliet and Piero, Culpett, Priddoe, George Murphy, P. F. Shine.

BRADFORD.—Pharos, Bond Rowell, Musical Burglars, Elroy, Hal Bryan, Arthur Astill, La Amora and Karini.

BURNLEY.—Jack Lane, James Hunter, Jack Holden, Gemmel Bros., Radford and Russell, Edna Maude, Connie Browning.

CARLISLE.—David Poole, Billy Sunday, Tom Finglass, Eight Orchards, James Edison, Lily Langtry, Carmen and De Lor.

HALIFAX.—Delino, Frank Merry, Emmelyn Walters, Laurie de Vine, Mason and Bart, Clement May, Videau and Kirby.

HUDDERSFIELD.—Renee and Godfrey, Lawrence Wright Ensemble, Witt and Stevens, A. D. Robbins, George Lee, Frank H. Fox, Edward Victor.

LEICESTER.—Company as booked.

SOUTHAMPTON.—Daisy Wood, Ackroyd and Hardy, Esme Willard, Billy Hale, Victor and Velma, Paul Thomson.

WARRINGTON.—Winter and Bunny, Tom Gott, Power and Bendon, Val Vett, Harpe and Harper, Mafuziang Manchu Troupe, Susie Marney.

MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD.

BIRMINGHAM EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12.30).—Claude Gardner, Olga Morselli, Win and Windle, Harry Tate and Co., Three Ernests, The Three Beau Brummels.

BIRMINGHAM GRAND (rehearsal, 1). —George Calver, Donaldson Weedon and Co., Wilson Hallett, The Golda-Penville Quartette, Fred Karno presents "French Beans."

BIRMINGHAM SUMMERHILL PALACE (rehearsal, 12).—Dnig Sen Bros., Henry Fisher, Teddy and Iris, Billy Wisby.

BRADFORD ALHAMBRA (rehearsal, 12.15).—Dorothy Lena, Eddie Gray, Orpheus, Frank E. Franks, Nick Morton, Herbert Clifton, Abbie Mitchell and full Harmonic Quartette.

CARDIFF EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—De Alma, Togan and Geneva, Geerts Brothers, Lorna and Toots Pounds, P. T. Selbit's "Sawing Through a Woman," Frank Benson, Nolan and Holt.

CARDIFF OLYMPIA (rehearsal, 11).—Tom Bracewell and Dolly, Billie Kirton. "Will artists kindly note that the Cardiff Olympia bars the Cardiff Hippodrome, and that no variety agent has the sole bookings of the former theatre."

EDINBURGH EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Cornalia and Eddie, Fred Rex and Co., The Hadens, Jay Laurier, Mike S. Whallen, King and Benson, Magini.

FINSBURY PARK EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Zona and Milroy, Will Hay and Co., De Wynne Brothers, Penrose and Whitlock, Alfred Leonard, assisted by Adeline Valery, Doris Clayton, Winston's Water Lions and Diving Nymphs.

GATESHEAD EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Ruth Budd, Fred Sylvester, Midge Wood, George Bolton, Russell Carr, Sisters Vincent.

GLASGOW ALHAMBRA (rehearsal, 11). —Maurice Moscovitch, Norah Delaney, Dream Stars, Sinclair and Dalva, Will Van Allen, Apollo Trio, Claude Lester.

GLASGOW COLISEUM (rehearsal, 11).—Zellini, Frank Whitman, James Jewel and Co., Five Petleys, Lorne and Young, Herbert Cave, Kiddy Kennedy.

GLASGOW EMPIRE (rehearsal, 11).—Louis Douglas and Sonny Jones, Alf. Thomas, Nora Dale, Andrea and Theo, J. L. Davies and Percival Murray present "The Midnight Frolics."

HANLEY GRAND THEATRE (rehearsal, 12).—Lowdin., Rich Hayes, Jack Barty, Bros. Walsh, Nellie Wallace, J. W. Rickaby, Constance Wentworth, Helen Alston, and Frederic Lake.

HULL PALACE (rehearsal, 1).—Yamayama Troupe, Arthur Pond, Mazuz and Mazette, Scotch Kelly, Haydn Wood and Dorothy Court, Daisy Dormer, Wilf Barnand.

LEEDS EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Messrs. Murray and Dawe present "The Whirligig."

LIVERPOOL EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1). —Adam Tomlinson, De Guchi Troupe, The Westbrooks, Poluski Bros., Nat. D. Ayer, The Great Lester, Elliott-Savonas.

LIVERPOOL OLYMPIA (rehearsal, 1). —Harry Day presents "Spangles."

LONDON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 11).—Moss' Empires present the Wylie-Tate production, "The Peep-Show."

NEWCASTLE EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Marion Vallance, Fred Karno presents "Yes, Papa," Milton Hayes, Harry Herbert.

NEW CROSS EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—La Ventura, Harry Tatt, Whit Cunliffe, Lake and Barrasford, Daisy Taylor, Wiston and Whyse, Jen Latona, Les Tumilet.

NEWPORT EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Billy Danvers, The Three Arizonas, Eileen and Marjorie, Nellie Wigley, Rice and Werner, Frank O'Dell, Graham and Cullen.

NOTTINGHAM EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1). —George French, Two Ascots, Takio, George D'Albert, La Veen and Cross, Betty Barclay and George Glover, Percy Athos and Co.

PRESTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 11).—Albert Douglas presents "The Partners."

SALFORD PALACE THEATRE (rehearsal, 11).—W. G. Gould and E. Watts-Phillips present "The Circus Queen."

SHEFFIELD EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1.—The Westwoods, Wal Langtry, Two Cures, Charles Austin, Hector and Loletta, Peter Bernard, George Withey.

SOUTHSEA KING'S THEATRE (rehearsal, 1.30).—Harry Day presents "Patches."

SOUTH SHIELDS EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1). — "Cheerful Days," Kikuta Family. (Note.—South Shields bars Tynemouth.)

STRATFORD EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Hilda Denton, Bromley Carter, Stanley Brothers, Four Swifts, Jack Pleasants, Du Calion, Nervo and Knox.

SUNDERLAND EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1). —St. Juste and Higgins, Tom E. Hughes, Tom D. Newell, Dolly Elsworthy, Gus Fowler, Les Medanis. (Artists are requested to bring band parts for full orchestra, including horns, bassoon, harp, and second piano parts.)

SWANSEA EMPIRE (rehearsal, 2).—The Unique Three, Hinsle, Mart and Pep, Lillian Barnes, Megan Bros., Jay Whidden, Burr and Hope.

VICTORIA PALACE (rehearsal, 11.30).—Ella Shields, Wee Georgie Wood, Morny Cash, Thornley Dodge, Kenna Bros., Duncan and Godfrey, Smarte Brothers, Lily Denville.

WEST HARTLEPOOL EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Lily Morris, Fred Curran, &c.

STOLL TOUR.

(See Page 19.)

VARIETY THEATRES CONTROLLING CO., LTD.

BOSCOMBE HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1.30).—Les Rouge et Noirs in "Splinters of 1921."

BRIGHTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12). — Novelty Clintons, Chas. Grantley, Arthur Prince, Wright and Hartley, Young and Bernhart, Ada Reeve, Les Trombettas.

LEEDS HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Bert Levy, Dennis Neilson-Terry, Edwin Lawrence, Frank Powell, Dainty Doris, May Henderson, O'Neil and Thayer, and company as booked.

LIVERPOOL HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Norman White's Mystery, May Sherrard, A. C. Astor, Demidoff and Gamsakourdia, Talbot O'Farrell, "The Counterfeiters," Pasquali Bros.

MANCHESTER PALACE (rehearsal, 11). —"Bran Pie."

NEWCASTLE HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—"The Passing Show of 1921."

PARIS ALHAMBRA.—Period commencing June 3, 1921. Skating Nelsons, Dippy Diers, Mutt and Jeff, Jean and Jacques, Two Florimonds, Julien Vedey, Five Sachoffs, Tambo and Tambo, Seattle Troupe, Perchicott, Francardi.

PORTSMOUTH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—Arthur Gilroy, Ford and Lewis, T. E. Dunville, Fulgora, Nina Martin, Yost and Glady, Daphne Pollard, Violet Essex.

SHEFFIELD HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—"The Follies of 1921."

SOUTHAMPTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12.30).—Marjorie Fulton, Florence Yaymen, Jane Croft, De Biere, The Anartos.

SOUTHEND HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12.30).—"Jollities."

WOLVERHAMPTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Foster Kershaw, Raie and Rosie Walters, Fred Barnes, Mayne and Sheridan, Sam Mayo, Fashions de Vogue, and company as booked.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ALDERSHOT HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—Marshall Walls and Stanley May present "Nothing Doing."

ALDERSHOT, ALFRED BERT'S MILITARY HALLS (rehearsal, 2.30).—Barclay and Maye, Freda and May, White and Jerome, Dessie and Lind, Elsie and May, Barrie and Fragson, Little Hatch, Locker King, Bert Lupeen, Dora Delmar, Eric Romaine, Leslie Crowther, Fred Read, Anita Hilloby, Har. T. Gilroy, Elsie Maie, Harry Wells.

ASTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12). —Victoria Carmen, Peter Pariss, Dan Cleary, Carlotta Mossetti, Stidder, Boy Ronald.

ATTERCLIFFE PALACE (rehearsal, 1). —Sisters Martelloni, Tess and Flo Le Roy, V. M. Gaston, Phil Kauffman, Harrison and Harrigan, Babs Pacey.

AYR PAVILION THEATRE (rehearsal, 1).—The Sutcliffe Family, Sandy Scott, Ivy Gordon, Alfred Jepson, Cara Magda, Billy Walters.

BATH PALACE. — Bob Anderson and Polo Pony, Eva Eddie and Elgar Hudson, Pinnfold and Pippett, Olive Lenton, Goodfellow and Gregson, Rose and Wold.

COVENTRY HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—Ernie Mayne, Zoe and Zona, Leslie Strange, Bobbie Kerrigan, Louie Tinsley.

DUNDEE KING'S THEATRE (rehearsal, 12).—Jack Shires, Doc Campbell, Macleod and Britton, Zaleski, Dan Bros. and Sherry, Mary Ann Clarke, Johnny Dundee.

GLASGOW PAVILION (rehearsal, 11).—Naughton and Gold, Ensemble Moderne, and full variety company as booked.

KINGSTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12.30). —Noni and Partner, Bert Hughes and Co., Lombard Trio, Southwood and Pink Lady, Fred Maitland ("Erbert"), Mario Lorenzi, Betty and Billy Burns, Ralf Howard, Molly Macarthy.

LLANDUDNO PALLADIUM (rehearsal, 10.30).—Symphonia, Dorothy Belton, The Bartons, Fred Hunt, Three Walkers, The Dormondes.

LONDON MUSIC HALL (Shoreditch Empire).—Elsie Bowen and Billy Doust, Duncan and Atkinson, Gaston Marel, Betancourt, Cliff Barrett and Netta Clark, Wally Dewar, Bert Neilson.

MANSFIELD EMPIRE (rehearsal, 3).—Famous Christies, Adkin and Co., Lily Young, and others as booked.

NORTHAMPTON NEW THEATRE (rehearsal, 12).—"The Catch of the Season."

PENGE EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Daisy James and Co. in "At the Villa Rose."

PETERBOROUGH THEATRE ROYAL (rehearsal, 1).—W. W. Kelly's "A Royal Divorce."

READING PALACE THEATRE.—Lew Lake's company in "The Far East."

WALHAM GREEN GRANVILLE (rehearsal, 12).—Cruickshanks, The Buchanans, Gicardo, Kitty Grey, Eric Mason, Connie Howard, W. P. Wentley, Victor Cameron, The Volbecques, Pathé, O'Donnell and Kuming.

RAYMOND HUGE SUCCESS NEW SHOW.

"JACK IN THE BOX," AT WOOLWICH HIPPODROME.

Mr. Joseph Hayman's six-scene production, "Jack in the Box," is meeting with much success on the Gulliver tour, and this week, at Woolwich, is proving a big attraction. The fine comedy, and some particularly bright singing and dancing, as well as the *mise en scène*, are all that could be desired.

Mildred Franklin and Mr. Jack Warman head the cast. The former is an excellent actress and proves her worth as Mary Chaplin Pickford—she is particularly clever also in "Reflections," and in a newspaper-boy recitation. Jack Warman scores all the while as Algy—he has an original style—and "I'm in Lodginga" was perhaps his best effort. Mr. Roy Jefferies, a fine light-comedy artist, has an excellent stage presence and an equally good voice. He had several numbers and a duet, "Whispering," with Miss Freda Francis, a very charming little lady, who as Katie sings and dances delightfully. Mr. Harry Hartley, as Cuthbert, adds to the comedy success of the show. Miss Dorothy Venton, a clever and vivacious Betty, has some good numbers, and other parts are all ably played by Elsie Price, Fred Bonner, and Howard Dennison. Mention must also be made of "The Georgia Peaches" dancing octette and the capital chorus.

Bath Theatre Royal Co.

An ordinary general meeting of the shareholders of the company will be held at the office, 3, Paragon, Bath, on Friday afternoon, to receive the report of the directors and the audited accounts. The report shows that from last year's account there was a sum of £134 16s. 6d. with which to commence the year now closed. The gross income for the year is £653 18s. The profit for the year as shown by the balance-sheet is £326 11s. 10d. The directors recommend the payment of a dividend of 1s. per share, which will require a sum of £101 6s., and leave a balance of £225 5s. 10d. to be carried forward to the credit of next year's account, which the directors consider wise to reserve for future contingencies. The directors who retire by rotation are Messrs. Farwell, Mundy, and Stone.

ARTISTS AT PLAY.

THE STAGE GOLFING SOCIETY.

A team of actors met the representatives of the London Press Golfing Society, in singles and foursomes, at Beaconsfield, on Friday, and defeated the journalists by 18½ points to 8½ on the day.

Owing to the International match at Hoylake, several enthusiatic Press golfers were denied the pleasure of playing at Beaconsfield, and as the visiting side was thus short, Sir Emsley Carr, Harry Rountree, and Lincoln Springfield had each to play two opponents.

Springfield made a good fight of it against Austin Melford and Louis Goodrich, and while Melford managed to beat him, he put it over Goodrich to the tune of 5 up and 4 to play.

Fred Leslie, who led for the Stage, played a beautiful long, straight game; and Philip Simmons was very accurate in his approaching. Results:—

Singles.

PRESS.

Sir Emsley Carr (plus 1), 0; Sir Emsley Carr (plus 1), 0; Harry Rountree (plus 1), 1; Harry Rountree (plus 1), 0; Hal Ludlow (scr.), 0; Percival Marshall (4) (2 and 1), 0; J. C. Boys (4), 0; J. A. Jenkins (6), 0; A. S. Hardy (6), 0; R. C. Lyle (7), 0; H. E. Andrews (9) (2 and 1), 1; J. C. Hibbert (10), 0; Frank Wadsworth (10), 0; C. E. King (12) (2 and 1), 1; R. Mallinson (12), 0; W. Brown (14) (7 and 6), 1; Lincoln Springfield (15), 0; Lincoln Springfield (15) (5 and 4), 1; Total, 5.

STAGE.

Fred Leslie (plus 1) (4 and 3), 1; Philip Simmons (scr.) (3 and 2), 1; G. Saunders (3) (7 and 5), 1; Owen Nares (4) (6 and 4), 1; Albert Whelan (5) (4 and 3), 1; Ernest Graham (8), 0; M. Lewis (7) (4 and 2), 1; Oscar Asche (8) (6 and 5), 1; Major Ian H. Beith (8) (1 up), 1; Davy Burnaby (9) (5 and 4), 1; Taylor Platt (9), 0; F. Ranalow (10) (6 and 5), 1; A. W. Baskcomb (11) (3 and 2), 1; S. Trevor (12), 0; B. Webster (13) (5 and 4), 1; T. Weguelin (12), 0; Austin Melford (16) (4 and 3), 1; Louis Goodrich (18), 0; Total, 13.

Foursomes.

PRESS.

Sir Emsley Carr, ½; Rountree, 0; Ludlow and Hardy (1 up), 1; Jenkins and Lyle, 0; Boys and Marshall, 0; Andrews and Hibbert 0; Wadsworth and Mainson (5 and 4), 0; King and Brown, 0; Springfied (1 up), 1; Total, 3½.

STAGE.

Leslie (1 down) Simmons (4 up and 2), 1; Saunders (2 up), Nares (2 and 1), 1; Whelan and Beith, 0; Asche and Burnaby (4 and 3), 1; Lewis and Graham (4 and 3), 1; Platt and Ranalow (5 and 4), 1; Baskcombe and Webster, 0; Trevor and Weguelin (4 and 3), 1; Melford and Goodrich, 0; Total 5½.

Total points: The Stage, 18½; the Press, 8½.

"CUPID IN HOSPITAL."

Comedy, in Three Acts, by J. Sackville Martin, Produced at the Palace Theatre, Watford, Monday, May 23.

Sir Peregrine Prendergast and Philip Barton .....Rex Gerard
Dr. Hope ..... William Daunt
Dr. Garside .....Cecil A. Pearce
The Porter ..... Fred Owen
Mrs. Barton ..... Pauline Parry
Nurse Price ..... Marie Dix

This comedy, which was originally produced at the Manchester Repertory Theatre by Miss Horniman some years ago, under another name, was given a trial run under its new title at the Palace Theatre, Watford, on Monday evening, previous to its production in the West End. The scene of the story is a general hospital, where flirtations take place between a pretty hospital nurse and two house surgeons, the senior of whom, Dr. Hope, is a strict disciplinarian, until he, like his junior, Dr. Garside, falls a victim to the charms of Nurse Price (the "Cupid in Hospital"). This leads to an estrangement between the two doctors. Eventually they find they have both been fooled, for the young lady, who has an eye to business and position, accepts the offer of marriage of Sir Peregrine Prendergast, an elderly bachelor, and consulting physician to the hospital. Most of the humour of the piece is provided by Philip Barton, a bank clerk, who has a weakness for writing dramas, and is so depressed at the non-success of his work that he threatens to take "death by both hands," as was the Roman custom of centuries ago. His wife, however, never takes his threats seriously, so that when he is eventually brought to the hospital suffering from opium poisoning, and she learns the news, she is greatly distressed. Barton had, however, taken the precaution not to swallow an effective dose, so, after the usual remedies have been applied, he quickly recovers, and leaves the hospital a wiser but sadder man, having promised not to attempt to write any more dramas. The character which seemed to please the audience most was the hospital porter, for, although his appearances were brief and infrequent, he always provoked hearty laughter.

The acting throughout was excellent. Mr. Rex Gerard displayed cleverness in doubling the parts of Sir Peregrine Prendergast and Philip Barton, the two characters being so vastly different. Messrs. William Daunt and Cecil A. Pearce gave excellent portrayals of the parts of the house surgeons, the latter being especially good. High praise should be accorded Miss Marie Dix for her clever embodiment of Nurse Price. Miss Parry as Mrs. Barton was seen to the best advantage in the last scene, where she sought her husband's forgiveness. Mr. Fred Owen as the hospital porter must be credited with a delightfully humorous rendering of the part.

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"THE ERA" FILM SECTION

TOPICS OF THE TRADE.

"HYPNOTISED" FILM TALENT.

A FEW "LIKELY" SUBJECTS.

PROBABLY one of the most moth-eaten rumours in the "picture" world is that which declares that the wonderful acting of Lilian Gish, and other artists, in the Griffiths productions is, to a large extent, due to the hypnotic influence exercised over them by D. W. himself. The story has never received the slightest confirmation from Mr. Griffiths, or from anyone else, but it must have proved a godsend to certain "picture" journalists when news was stagnant. And now, along comes Geoffrey Malins, the man who filmed a big instalment of the war, and tells us definitely that when producing films he employs the science of hypnosis in order to stimulate and improve, when necessary, the acting powers of his artists.

May we suggest that Mr. Malins, in the interest of the trade and the picture-going public alike, should extend his Svengalian treatment and apply it to various types of screen performers? For example, there is the "stunt" actor who, for no earthly reason whatever, rides a motor-bicycle through a plate-glass window; hangs by his nose from a telegraph wire what time umteen villains, whose marksmanship is as bad as their morals, vainly endeavour to puncture him with revolver bullets; wrestles with drugged lions in arenas; and undergoes other unnecessary perils the futility and incongruity of which excite the derision of most of the intelligent persons in the audience.

THE UNWANTED ACTOR.

This kind of individual being nearly always hopeless as an actor, it would be most appropriate if Mr. Malins could employ his powers of "suggestion" on him and persuade him to return to the office stool, or the taxi-driver's seat, or wherever else he came from before vanity persuaded him that he could out-Douglas Fairbanks, so to speak. Then there is the type of heroine, affected by certain film companies, whose principal assets, as revealed in a succession of close-ups, are gums and giggles and an artlessness equally devoid of art and heart; there is the melodramatic actress who can never rise to a highly emotional situation without chest-heaving exercises of an appalling character; and there is the mature star—often the wife of a producer—who will insist on playing "pinafore" parts long after she has an understudy to her chin and her figure has lost its slimness. There are others, but if Mr. Malins will exercise his remarkable powers over these three types for a start, and either "improve" them or banish them, he will have earned the thanks of every friend of the cinema.

ROUND ABOUT FILMLAND.

"Disraeli" on the Screen—A Story of Factory Life—Mark Twain Film at Alhambra.

"Disraeli" to be Filmed.

George Arliss, whose first film, "The Devil," is now proving a great success in America, will hereafter release his pictures through The Allied Artists' Corporation, Ltd. The first picture that Mr. Arliss will make for release through The Allied Artists' Corporation, Ltd., is "Disraeli," perhaps the most celebrated of Mr. Arliss's stage successes. The play, by Louis N. Parker, has been acted more than fifteen hundred times by Mr. Arliss through five theatrical seasons all over America. Subsequently Mr. Arliss revived it for a special run in New York City. Film production of "Disraeli" is to begin immediately, and it is planned to release his picture in the latter part of this year.

"The Secret of the Hills."

"The Secret of the Hills," a successful novel by William Garrett, the English writer, has been selected by Vitagraph for the next Antonio Moreno production. The continuity has been prepared by E. Magnus Ingleton, and work on the new picture will start immediately at the West Coast studio under the direction of Chester Bennett. In "The Secret of the Hills" Mr. Moreno will appear as a young American who encounters a series of amazing adventures in London and the Highlands of Scotland because the beautiful eyes of a beautiful girl lead him on in quest of romance.

Vitagraph Stars Busy.

Corinne Griffith, the Vitagraph star, who recently completed "What's Your Reputation Worth?" will begin a new production, "The Payment," within a week. Webster Campbell, who directed her last picture, will again direct her. When Miss Griffith begins her picture, every Vitagraph star in the East, Miss Griffith, Alice Joyce, Alice Calhoun, and Catherine Calvert, will be busy at the Brooklyn studio. All the West Coast companies are also busily engaged at the Hollywood Studios in California.

"Around the Town."

Some idea of the success of the Joke Competition run by "Around the Town," and which is just being concluded, may be gathered from the fact that during the time it has been running over 15,000 jokes have been sent in. Always seasonable, "Around the Town" has just taken some excellent pictures of the latest creations in bathing costumes. These will be shown to the public immediately.

We hear, too, that a fine series of animal studies have been taken at the Edinburgh Zoo, and that the various items have been edited by the Edinburgh Zoo authorities, who professed themselves delighted with the pictures. Many of the animals have been photographed in the open.

"Vi, of Smith's Alley."

Taking advantage of the fine weather last week, Mr. Walter West successfully completed all his exterior work on his new film, "Vi, of Smith's Alley." This film, which stars Violet Hopson, is the story of a factory girl. Miss Hopson says that she has seldom enjoyed a part so much as that of her film namesake. "Although I have already played a factory girl in one of my earlier Broadwest films, she was a glorified factory girl, who turned out to be the daughter of the owner, but Vi is a true-to-life cockney. She does not indulge in fevvers and pearlies, for the modern factory girl is quite smartly dressed. I have learned a tremendous amount about factory life during the making of this film, and when I compare present-day conditions with those that obtained a few years ago, I realise what vast improvements have been made in this respect." This new Broadwest production will show the process of jam-making and sweet manufacture, as carried on in one of our largest factories.

Pauline Peters Flies to Holland.

"The Loudwater Mystery," the Broadwest film, which will be released on May 30th, features Gregory Scott, Cameron Carr, and Pauline Peters. It is an exciting detective story, in which the detective finds sufficient evidence to hang five people before he eventually discovers the real criminal. Pauline Peters, who plays the part of the mysterious friend of Lord Loadwater, recently made her first aeroplane flight from Croydon aerodrome to Amsterdam. Despite the fact that it was her first ascent, she declared she was not a bit nervous, and set out on her three-and-a-half hours' trip with as much composure as if she were making a train journey.

"The Bachelors' Club" Filmed.

A bright comedy is promised picture-goers in the Ideal screen-version of Israel Zangwill's humorous story, "The Bachelors' Club." The film has been produced from an Eliot Stannard scenario, by Mr. A. V. Bramble, and the picture, although only just completed, will be released to the public at the beginning of July. A first-class cast includes such well-known artists as Sydney Fairbrother, Mary Brough, Ernest Thesiger, James Lindsay, Ben Field, Arthur Pusey, A. G. Poulton, Sydney Paxton, Jack Denton, Arthur Cleave, Alice de Winton, Margot Drake, Dora Lennox, and Betty Belloc.

Mark Twain Film at Alhambra.

At the conclusion of the run of "Robeyen-Casserole," Sir Oswald Stoll has arranged to present at the Alhambra the Mark Twain film, "A Yankee at the Court of King Arthur." The film is a Fox production, and was heartily acclaimed by the Press after its recent trade show. The film will be presented at the Alhambra in three sessions daily, from Monday May 30.

"Fate's Plaything."

A screen adaptation of Mrs. D. C. Harding's successful book, "Oranges and Lemons," will be released in a few days throughout the country. The title has been altered, but the story is the same, telling as it does of a woman's infatuation for a worthless man. There are some clever people in the cast, including Miss Constance Worth.

The Men Who Make the Pictures.

Few who go to see the "movies" give a thought to the men who make the picture from start to finish. One sees the name of the leading artists, the photographer, the scenario writer and others flashed on the screen, but the master producer is still hidden as it were, "behind the screen." Such a person is Walter Wanger, the general manager of production to the Famous-Players Lasky Corporation, who is now on a visit to England and the Continent to study producing conditions in Europe. It is barely seven years ago he was a student at Dartmouth College. He went on the stage, but the war put an end to this ambition, and as a flying man he served in France. On demobilisation he went to America, where he produced "John Ferguson." He then took under his management Nazimova, the famous film star. Later he went to Jesse Lasky for a job, and got the most obscure one in the film world. He is now only twenty-six years of age.

FORTHCOMING TRADE SHOWS.

LONDON.

The Hidden Hand (Pathé), London Pavilion, 2.30, May 25.
Out of the Dark (Renters), Shaftesbury, 11.15, May 25.
Selected (Jury), Own Theatre, 10 and 3, May 26 and 27.
The Price of Possession (F.-Lasky), Super Cinema, 11, May 27.
Miracles of the Jungle (Kilner), Alhambra, 3, May 27.
The Charming Deceiver (Vitagraph), West End, 11, May 27.

BELFAST.

Imperia (Serial) (Gaumont), Own Theatre, 11, May 25.
Christie Specials (Gaumont), Own Theatre, 11, June 1.

BIRMINGHAM.

Four Just Men (Stoll), New-st. P.H., 11, May 25.
Conscience (L.I.F.T.), Scala, 11, May 26.

BRISTOL.

A Double Adventure (Pathé), Queen's Cinema, 11, May 25.

CARDIFF.

The Little Lady of the Big House (Wardour), Cinema Ex., 2.30, May 25.
Bonds of Love (Goldwyn), Cinema Ex., 2.30, May 25.
Christie Specials (Gaumont), Cinema Ex., 10.45, May 31.

DUBLIN.

Kitty Tailleur (Granger), Sackville P.H., 11.15, May 25.
The Husband Hunter (Fox), Carlton, 11.30, May 25.
Christie Specials (Gaumont), Own Theatre, 11.30, May 31.

GLASGOW.

Seven Years' Bad Luck (Jury), Own Theatre, 2.30, May 25.
The Love Special (F.-Lasky), Cinema House, 11, May 25.
Beatrice (L.I.F.T.), Salon, 11, May 25.
The Hidden Hand (Pathé), King's Cinema, 11, May 25.
The Hidden Hand (Pathé), Own Theatre, 3, May 25.

LEEDS.

It Can Be Done (Vitagraph), Cinema Ex., May 25.
The Magistrate (General), Cinema Ex., 11.40, May 25.
Shame (Fox), Cinema Ex., 11.40, May 26.

LIVERPOOL.

Christie Specials (Gaumont), Scala, 11, May 25.
Christie Specials (Gaumont), Own Theatre, 2.30, May 25.
The Magistrate (General), Futurist, 11.15, May 26.

MANCHESTER.

Mary-Find-the-Gold (Jury), Picture House, 11, May 25.
Daniel Deronda (Butcher), Midland Cinema, 11, May 25.
Skirts (Fox), Deansgate P.H., 11, May 26.

NEWCASTLE.

Why Trust Your Husband? (Fox), Stoll P.H., 11.15, May 25.
The Fugitive (Phillips), Stoll P.H., 11, May 26.
Bonds of Love (Goldwyn), New Pavilion, 11, May 27.
The Secret Gift (F.B.O.), New Pavilion, 11.15, May 30.
Count of Monte Christo (N. Mutual), New Pavilion, 11.15, May 31.

NOTTINGHAM.

What Every Woman Knows (F.-Lasky), Mechanic's Hall, 11, May 25.

SHEFFIELD.

Bare Knuckles (Fox), Electra Palace, 11, May 25.

CINEMATOGRAPH EXHIBITORS' ASSOCIATION.

SCOTTISH BRANCH.

Advance booking in its different aspects was the chief theme discussed at the last monthly meeting of the Scottish Branch of the C.E.A. (President Matt Waddell in the chair), when Mr. A. B. King presented a report of the last meeting of the C.E.A. General Council, which he had attended as a Scottish delegate.

Mr. King said he had attended a meeting at London in connection with the advance booking question, when this matter was under discussion for three hours. Personally, he thought that a real effort was at last being made to cure this ever-increasing evil, and he thought that they were all agreed that the present system was just about as dead as Napoleon. In his opinion, the present booking method would not be tolerated by the Rag Merchants' Association, and he thought that it was quite impossible to attempt to supply for August, 1923, what exhibitors thought the public desired in March, 1921. By booking so far ahead they as exhibitors were incurring liabilities that they might never be able to face, and he thought that a few of them would be very economical with any bookings that they would make for August of this year if they were only booking them to-day.

To be quite frank (added Mr. King), he had several objections to the proposals made by Lord Beaverbrook, and he had already enunciated these objections at the various meetings at which he had been present. But Lord Beaverbrook admitted that his proposals were only the basis of discussion, and, in fact, expressions of opinion, and he (Mr. King) would like to see Scotland giving a fillip to the whole movement—for he could assure them that they had a wholesome respect in London for any opinion that emanated from Scotland. "In such a thing as this," added Mr. King, "we must have co-operation. Please note that I do not mean a co-operative society for renting our own films, but what I mean is co-operation amongst ourselves as renters and exhibitors. If we will all act together harmoniously and honourably, this problem which appears so gigantic can, and must, be solved. Let us all act together, therefore, for there is always victory where there is unanimity."

On the motion of Mr. McKisseck, a resolution was carried that the Scottish Branch of the C.E.A. "demand that they get direct representation on the C.E.A. Committee to be appointed to meet the renters and the manufacturers to consider the problem of advance booking, and that the Scottish representative should be connected with, or have the confidence of, the first-run houses in Glasgow." Another motion was also carried to the effect that no booking of any film be made in pencil or other reservation till after the date of the territorial trade show.

TRADE SHOWS OF THE WEEK.

By "THE ERA" SPECIAL REVIEWERS.

"THE ADORABLE SAVAGE."

BEAUTIFUL SCENES OF FIJI ISLANDS.

Production .....Universal
Type .....Drama
Star .....Edith Roberts
Length .....Five Reels
Distributors .....F.B.O.

In "The Adorable Savage," which has a none too convincing story, the exterior scenes are some of the most beautiful ever screened. The many wonder views of Fiji would make any film in which they were included, and when it is remembered that Edith Roberts is the star there can be no doubt of this latest Universal's success with the public. The theme centres round an American college girl, who, on returning after many years to Fiji, the land of her birth, discovers that she has native blood in her veins. Shocked by the realisation that her father has sunk to the level of a native, and that her sister is a typical South Sea Islander, she dons native dress, and decides to forget her former life. Her love for a white man, however, causes her to change her mind, and she consents to return with him to America. Mention must be made of the tropical storm, a most realistic spectacle of Nature in destructive mood.

[See our Film Markings.]

* * *

"SHAME."

"FOR EAST IS EAST, AND WEST IS WEST."

Production .....William Fox
Type .....Drama
Star .....All-star Cast
Length .....Eight Reels

This latest Fox offering is a big film in every sense of the word. Neither story nor production is cramped, and it is a picture of much beauty and realism. The prologue is laid in Shanghai, and the locale next moves to San Francisco, the story necessitating glimpses of the famous China town. The forceful finale is staged in frozen Alaska, and includes a particularly original thrill. The entire cast work so excellently in their respective rôles that individual mention is unnecessary, and the photography is flawless, the night effects being as novel as they are excellent. The story deals with the agony of mind of a well-known business man when he learns that he is the child of an American father and Chinese mother. Afraid to tell his wife, and realising the fate of the unfortunate half-caste, his once happy life becomes a veritable nightmare. Finally he hides himself in frozen Alaska, where, after many months, he is found by his wife, and told the true story of his birth.

[See our Film Markings.]

* * *

"THE OFF-SHORE PIRATE."

YOUNG HEIRESS LOSES HEART TO KIDNAPPER.

Production ..... Metro
Type ..... Comedy-Drama
Star ..... Viola Dana
Length ..... Four Reels
Distributors ..... Jurys

"The Off-Shore Pirate" is a happy tale of care-free youth. Viola Dana makes a charming heroine, while excellent support is given by handsome Jack Mulhall. Metro photography is always flawless, and this production is no exception to the rule. Humorously unfolded the story centres round Ardita Farnham, a wilful young heiress, whose uncle-guardian is much worried over her flirtation with a Russian adventurer. Hoping to effect a cure he arranges that Toby, the son of an old friend, shall kidnap her, yacht and all, and bear her far away from the dangerous Russian. Toby and his six negro assistants are soon very much at home, but later the encounters between Ardita's bodyguard and the blacks are many in number. Finally Toby is forced to fight his own men, and it is Ardita who, when he is thrown overboard, helps him to swim ashore.

[See our Film Markings.]

* * *

"THE MAGISTRATE."

"OH, WHAT A TANGLED WEB WE WEAVE—"

Production ..... Samuelson
Type ..... Comedy
Star ..... Tom Reynolds
Length ..... Five Reels
Distributors ..... General

A most successful screen adaption of Sir Arthur Pinero's well-known comedy, "The Magistrate," has been made by Samuelson. In the name rôle, Tom Reynolds gives of his best, getting every ounce of fun possible out of the part. Miss Maudie Dunham makes a pert little governess, and excellent wor kis done by Roy Royston as the "boy." Briefly told, the story concerns a newly-married widow, who, owing to the telling of a fib concerning her age, is forced to pass her grown-up son off as a schoolboy. Complications of a decidedly funny nature ensue, but finally the widow's true age comes to light, and the "boy" is able to don attire suitable to his age.

* * *

"THE COUNT OF MONTE CRISTO."

DUMAS' POPULAR STORY ON THE SCREEN.

Production ..... D'Art
Type ..... Serial
Star ..... Leon Mathol
Length ..... 15 2-Reel Episodes
Distributors ..... W. and F.

This latest effort in the serial line is notable for the fine portrayal of Dantes by Lean Mathol. Dumas' famous character is brought to life by the strength of M. Mathol's portrayal. The photography is good, and the supporting cast adequate. The scenes on the Island of Elba are particularly impressive, and there is grim realism in the successful escape from the cell. "The Count of Monte Christo" is not a serial of stunts and false excitement, and it should make a wide appeal.

"THE LOVE SPECIAL."

RAILWAY ENGINEER WINS THE LINE PRESIDENT'S DAUGHTER IN MARRIAGE.

Production ..... Paramount
Star ..... Wallace Reid
Type ..... Comedy-drama
Length ..... 5 Reels
Distributors ..... Famous-Lasky

Some remarkably fine views of mountain scenery are seen in this picture, which was shown to a trade audience at the New Gallery Kinema on Tuesday of last week. Mr. Wallace Reid enacts the character of Jim Glover, a railway engineer, who, returning to the headquarters after a strenuous stretch of work necessitating four days and nights without sleep, is deputed to go off immediately and conduct the president of the railway and his daughter over the line. An option on a piece of land, the possession of which will shorten the railway advantageously, is negotiated by Glover, and this results in increasing the prosperity of the line, and enables him to obtain the hand of Laura Gage, the president's pretty daughter. Mr. Wallace Reid gives a clever portraiture of the hero, the character being given some intimate and humorous touches which are very appealing. Miss Agnes Ayres ably seconds the star as Laura Gage. The photography and lighting are maintained thoughout at a high level.

PICTURES AND VARIETIES AT THE PALACE.

The irrepressible Douglas Fairbanks in his new "Independent" production, "The Mark of Zorro," has a fine vehicle for his exuberant and effervescing style, the character he impersonates, that of a roystering and swash-buckling bandit who is ever at the service of the poor and oppressed, being entirely suited to his exuberant personality. This fellow, Don Diego by name, assumes the nom de plume of Zorro, and the inevitable result of any altercation with him is the brand of a "Z" inflicted by his sword, with which weapon he is extremely adept. After "putting paid" to the account of the principal bully of the locality, Zorro succeeds in winning the love of a demure damsel who, in more prosaic circumstances, had spurned his advances. Mr. Fairbanks, in the course of this story performs some amazing stunts of horsemanship and acrobatics, while his sword-play is extremely effective and convincing. The scenery is beautiful, and the support adequate.

The variety portion of the entertainment is contributed by M'Lita Dolores, the essence of daintiness and grace, whose singing and dancing were keenly enjoyed; Mme. Bertini, whose beautiful voice was heard to much advantage in "That Old-Fashioned Sweetheart of Mine," and operatic selections; and Mr. Billy O'Connor, with clever card manipulation. The programme during the summer months will be of the "continuous" order.

The B. and C. Films.

Johnny Reid, who plays the leading rôle in the new B. and C. production, "The Puppet Man," by Cosmo Gordon Lennox, is probably the youngest British film actor to play the chief part. He is only sixteen, and has already done well both in films for the B. and C. and on the legitimate stage with H. V. Esmond. Molly Adair, who played a supporting part in the last B. and C. film, "The Gamble in Lives," was so successful that she was engaged at once to play lead in their new production, "The Puppet Man," for which she has gone with the company to the Continent.

Another Super-Cinema.

The new Super Coronation, at the junction of East Ham High-street and Manor Park Broadway is to be opened on Saturday. The seating accommodation is for 2,000, and the building is luxuriously fitted up throughout. There is a handsome marble-lined vestibule, with electroliers of antique brass, and lighting arrangements of an unique character. An ingenious apparatus has been installed which will make the house delightfully cool in hot weather, arrangements having been made to pump ice-washed air throughout the whole building. A magnificent organ has been erected, and an orchestra of a score of talented musicians has been engaged. The building has cost £100,000 to erect and equip. The Mayor of East Ham will perform the opening ceremony on Saturday.

CINEMA ORCHESTRAL ORGANISTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE ERA."

Sir,—The serious attention of music publishers, British and foreign, should be drawn to the policy they are following at present in arranging and publishing organ special obligato parts, which, in about 96 per cent. of cases, are quite worthless to the orchestral organist in a cinema, for the following reasons, amongst others:—

1. There is no "Standardised" cinema organ in the way the pianoforte or violin is standardised. From John o' Groats to Land's End the violin is a violin; but the cinema organ is not in that position, nor ever likely to be. Hence, with organs coming "fast and furiously" into small orchestras, it is only fair and kind to the music publishers to point out the dangers confronting them. They should hope for the best, expect nothing, and prepare (i.e.) score for the worst. That is their only safe ground.

2. There is no "standardised" small orchestra for a cinema; in January it may contain strings, flute, cornet, and drums; a few weeks later these latter (wind and drums) have left, or are to be done without, hence their parts should in the main always—invariably—be regarded as non-existent, and yet cued in the piano conductor's copy. That way safety lies. America is sending us thousands of cinema albums with not a single melody, part, or cue for the piano conductor's guidance; nothing for the piano but tum-tum, tum-tum; such a part is quite useless. If the violinist or 'cellist is a deputy, or weak, or the wind players are absent, then the pianist is as helpless as a baby. And an organist, using similar copies, is as helpless.

3. I have studied deeply pianoforte and organ tuning as part of my practical music education, and I know as a positive fact there is no "standardised" system of tuning organs commercially existent. One can get a pianoforte tuned, sometimes fairly well, as a rule, in a town, or even village, but it is practically impossible to get a reed organ tuned, or a stop tuned, or even a few reeds attended to, and thus it is almost better to endure than to try and improve. This is important to the publisher, because an 8ft. stop (hautboy or flute) may have a most important part given to it in a specially arranged organ part, and yet on many organs, be unplayable. When I last played several such reeds could not be used, being so much out of tune, although the tuner came every six months and no other parts being printed, the organ could virtually do nothing although eight other stops were available at 16ft. and 4ft. pitch.

4. Cinema organists are not "standardised." One can only play in the quiet refined cathedral style; another can improvise quite dashingly and effectively but is ignorant of harmony, &c.; another is almost inexperienced, another has never been under a leader who would give him a chance to let himself go, and so on.

In conclusion, the only safe course, in my opinion, is to print on every piano conductor's copy FOR ORGAN ALSO put in reasonable cues, and absolutely discard all special organ parts, supplying two piano conductor's parts, that is, The organist then can sustain; cue if take a rest here and there, in fact, the whole field is open to him. Special organ parts are a great expense to the publisher, and useless to the organist when trained in theory and practice. In every case a cued-in piano conductor's copy is vastly preferable.—Yours faithfully,

E. ATKINS.

George Lane.

There are rumours about that George Lane, Leslie Henson's clever understudy in the Winter Garden Theatre, is soon to be seen in a comic film, in which he is the only living character—supported by his now famous sewing machine, watch-making apparatus, and maybe his new "Matchless" motor.

MUSICAL SUGGESTIONS

For Film "Musical Suggestions" see page 6.

FILM MARKINGS.

For the benefit of Exhibitors in London and the Provinces who are booking their programmes solely on our markings, we are in future giving further details. We would point out that the markings allotted to films in this section are given on their relative drawing power to showmen:—

Reference No. .. .. 6—10.

Suit high-class audience.....A | Suit sensational audience C
Suit average audience.....B | Suit any audience .....D

EXCLUSIVES.

Released.	Name.	Brand.	Description.	Feet.	Marks.	Sub-title.
Dec. 12, 1921	It Can Be Done	Vitagraph	Drama	5000	9¼	B
March 27, 1922	Skirts	Fox	Sp'ct'cul'r Comedy	5000	9	
June 19, 1922	The Offshore Pirate.. ..	Jury's-Metro.	Comedy-Drama	5000	8¾	
Notknown	The Adorable Savage ..	F.B.O.-Universal	Drama	5000	8¾	C
Notknown	Daniel Deronda	Butcher	Drama	5000	8½	A
Notknown	Conscience	L.I.F.T.U.C.I.	Melodr'ma	5 0	8¾	
Notknown	Shame	Fox-Spectacular	D. Colour	33.0	9¾	C
Notknown	The Shadow of Evil.. ..	Regent-Reardon	Melodr'ma	6000	8¾	
Notknown	Prudence Of Broadway ..	Haywards	Drama	5000	9	
Notknown	In Folly's Trail	F.B.O. Universal	Drama	5000	8¾	

OPEN MARKET.

May 19 ..	Around The Town	Gaumont ..	—	—	8¾	
May 19 ..	Gazette Gaumont	—	—	—	9	
May 23 ..	Pathé Pictorial	—	—	—	8¾	
May 23 ..	Pathé Gazette	—	—	—	9	

ON THE ROAD.

PLAYS.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.—May 23, L., Edinburgh; 30, New, Cardiff.
ALL IN GOOD TIME.—May 30, O.H., Manchester.
* ARE YOU A MASON?—May 23, Huddersfield; 30, Bristol.
* BAYNTON SHAKESPEAREAN CO. (HENRY).—May 23, Grand, Leeds; 30, Prince's, Manchester.
* BEHIND THE SCENES.—May 23, T.R., Guildford; 30, Hip., Dover.
* BENSON SHAKESPEAREAN CO (SIR FRANK).—May 30, T.R., York.
BIFFY.—May 23, Prince's, Manchester.
* BIRD OF PARADISE (BUTT).—May 23, T.R., Brighton.
BLOOR AND PHILLIPS REP. CO.—May 23, Grand Pav., Llandrindod Wells; 30, Grand Pav., Llandrindod Wells.
BOY'S BEST FRIEND, A.—May 26, Lyceum, Ipswich.
BROADWAY JONES.—May 23, Empire, Penge.
* BROWN SUGAR.—May 23, Prince's, Bristol; 30, T.R., Plymouth.
* CARL ROSA OPERA CO.—May 23, King's, Hammersmtih; 30, King's, Hammersmith.
* CARLTON WALLACE (REP.) CO.—May 23, T.R., Norwich; 30, T.R., Norwich.
CARMELLO.—May 23, County, Bedford; 30, Grand, Luton.
* CARMINETTA.—May 23, Palace, Chelsea, S.W.
CATCH OF THE SEASON.—May 23, T.R., Bolton.
* CHARLEY'S AUNT.—May 23, Lyc., Newport; 30, New, Oxford.
CIRCUS QUEEN.—May 23, Nottingham; 30, Salford.
COME OUT OF THE KITCHEN.—May 23, W.G., Blackpool; 30, T.R., Blackburn.
* CORENTEZ AND HEATHER REP. CO.—May 23, Hip., Wednesbury; 30, Hip., Wednesbury.
* COUNTRY GIRL.—May 23, T.R., Rochdale; 30, T.R., Halifax.
DOBELL (W. L.).—May 23, Cinema, Monaghan; 30, T.H., Dundalk (3), Wentworth Hall, Drogheda (3).
DORAN (CHAS.) SHAKESPEAREAN CO.—May 23, Grand, Southampton; 30, South Parade Pier, Southsea.
* D'OYLY CARTE OPERA CO.—May 23, T.R., Newcastle; 30, T.R., Newcastle.
* EDMONDS (E. VIVIAN) REP. CO.—May 23, County, Reading.
ETERNAL CITY.—May 23, T.R., Bury.
* FACE AT THE WINDOW.—May 23, T.R., West Bromwich.
* FAIRFAX (BETTY) AND KENNETH (KEITH) CO.—May 23, Lyc., Morecambe; 30, Shakespeare, Liverpool.
* FANNY'S FIRST PLAY (CHAS. MACDONA).—May 23, Grand, Luton; 30, New Pal., Westcliff.
FIND THE LADY.—May 23, Emp., Woolwich; 30, Pal., Battersea.
* FORBES-ROBERTSON, FRANK.—May 23, T.R., Chatham; 30, Hip., Rugby.
FRENCH LEAVE.—May 23, Lyceum, Sheffield; 30, King's, Glasgow.
FRENCH LEAVE (BLUE).—May 23, Burton.
FRENCH LEAVE (RED).—May 23, Warrington; 30, Woolwich.
* GARDEN OF ALLAH.—May 23, T.R., Birmingham; 30, T.R., Birmingham.
* GARROD (WALTER V.) REP. CO.—May 23, Grand, Lancaster.
GET RICH QUICK WALLINGFORD.—May 23, Grand, Hull; 30, Lincoln.
* GIRL IN THE TAXI.—May 23, Pav., Plymouth.
* GLAZE, W. H.—May 30, H.M., Carlisle.
* GOING UP.—May 23, Grand, Blackpool.
* GREET, BEN.—May 23, T.R., Exeter.
HAPPY MAN.—May 23, Palace, Grimsby; 30, Palace, Lincoln.
* HATHAWAY BARON REP. CO.—May 23, T.R., Dewsbury; 30, T.R., Dewsbury.
* HINDLE WAKES.—May 23, Gaiety, Manchester; 30, Grand, Blackpool.
HIS LITTLE WIDOWS.—May 23, Grand, Hull; 30, Grand, Mansfield.
JUSTICE FOR THE WIFE.—May 23, Grand, Gravesend.
K.C., THE.—May 23, Palace, Watford; 30, O.H., Southport.
* KIKI.—May 23, W.P., Brighton.
KIMBERLEY AND CLYDE REP.—May 23, T.R., Leicester; 30, T.R., Leicester.
* KISS CALL (WALLS AND HENSON).—May 23, Emp., Peterborough; 30, West Pier, Brighton.
* KITTY FROM KENSINGTON.—May 23, Hip., Chesterfield; 30, Grand, Doncaster.
LADY SLAVEY.—May 23, Blackburn; 30, Lyceum T., Sheffield.
* LAWRENCE (LEONARD) REP. CO.—May 23, Grand, Halifax; 30, Burton-on-Trent.
* LITTLE MOTHER.—May 23, Prince's, Bradford.
LIZZIE.—May 23, Hip., Nuneaton.
* LODGE PERCY REP. CO.—May 23, Prince's, Bradford.
* LUCK OF THE NAVY.—May 23, Pier Pav., Weston-super-Mare.
* MAN FROM TORONTO.—May 23, T.R., Manchester; 30, Opera House, Blackpool.
* MAN WHO CAME BACK.—May 23, T.R., Nottingham; 30, T.R., Bournemouth.
MARRIAGE BY INSTALMENTS.—May 23, T.R., Bournemouth.
MAUDE (WINIFRED) CO.—May 23, Metropole, Glasgow; 30, Metropole, Glasgow.
* MILLANE (JOSEPH) REP CO.—May 23, Grand, West Hartlepool.
MOTHER SHOULD TELL.—May 23, Hip., Poplar.
* MY OLD DUTCH (CHEVALIER).—May 23, Olympia, Shoreditch; 30, Hip., Putney.
* MYSTERY OF THE YELLOW ROOM. May 23, Grand O.H., Middlesbrough; 30, New, Cambridge.
MY SWEETHEART (L.M.A.).—May 23, Hip., Queen's Park, Manchester; 30, O.H., Coventry.
NEILSON TERRY (PHYLLIS).—May 23, P.O.W., Grimsby.
* NINTH EARL (MAXWELL AND PHILLIPS CO.).—May 23, Grand, Derby; 30, Playhouse, Cardiff.
OH! BETSY.—May 23, Marina, Lowestoft; 30, Hip., Norwich.
OSMOND (MRS. FRED) CO.—May 23, Emp., Edmonton; 30, Alex., Hull.
* PAIR OF SIXES.—May 23, T.R., York.
* PERI, THE SLAVE OF LOVE.—May 23, Court, Liverpool; 30, T.R., Nottingham.
POTASH AND PERLMUTTER.—May 23, O.H., Manchester; 30, Huddersfield.
* PRETTY PEGGY (REDFORD AND RUSS).—May 23, Regent, Lowestoft; 30, Tivoli, Hull.
* PYGMALION (CHAS. MACDONA).—May 23, Grand, Luton; 30, New Palace, Westcliff.
* QUAKER GIRL.—May 23, T.R., Lincoln.
* RAFFLES.—May 23, Palace Pier, Brighton; 30, T.R., Edinburgh.
* RIGHT TO STRIKE (A. CO.).—May 23, Grand, Hanley; 30, Grand, Wolverhampton.
* ROMANTIC AGE.—May 23, W.G., New Brighton.
* ROTTERS, THE.—May 30, O.H., Scarborough.
RUBY PENDANT, THE.—May 23, Bury St. Edmunds.
* "RUINED LADY."—May 30, Royal, Portsmouth.
* SALLY IN SOCIETY.—May 30, Prince's, Bradford.
* SCANDAL.—May 23, Grand, Swansea.
* SEVEN NIGHTS IN LONDON.—May 23, Hippo., Bursiem.
* SHELLEY (HERBERT) REP. CO.—May 23, O.H., Northampton; 30, Alex., Birmingham.
* SHERLOCK HOLMES (LEO TROOD). May 23, Grand, Nelson; 30, T.R., Rochdale.
SHOULD A HUSBAND FORGIVE?—May 23, Empire, Edmonton; 30, Alex., Hull.
*SILVER KING.—May 23, O.H., Coventry. 30, Met., Bootle.
SLEEPING PARTNERS.—May 30, Hip., Birkenhead.
SOCIAL CONVENIENCE.—May 23, Pleasure Gardens, Folkestone; 30, T.R., Brighton.
* SOILED.—May 30, Grand, Stockton.
* TARZAN OF THE APES.—May 23, Richmond; 30, Southampton.
TERRY (FRED) AND NEILSON (JULIA CO.).—May 23, Pal., Maidstone (3), Palace, Ramsgate (3).
THREE'S A CROWD.—May 23, O.H., Scarborough.
THREE WEEKS (VINT).—May 23, Hip., Keighley; 30, Grand, Hull.
* THREE WISE FOOLS (PLATT AND GWENN).—May 23, Hip., Boscombe.
* TIGER'S CUB (LEO TROOD).—May 23, Grand, Nelson; 30, T.R., Rochdale.
TRIP TO PARIS.—May 23, T.R., Leeds; 30, Hip., Huddersfield.
TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS.—May 23, T.R., Bury.
* TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS.—May 23, Palace, Gloucester.
* VERY IDEA.—May 23, R., Portsmouth; 30, Brixton Theatre, S.W.
VOICE FROM THE MINARET (MARIE LOHR).—May 23, King's, Glasgow; 30, Court, Liverpool.
WEEK-END, A.—May 30, Maidstone.
* WELFITT-GRAY REP. CO.—May 23, O.H., Leicester; 30, Royalty, Chester.
* YOUNG PERSON IN PINK.—May 23, P.O.W., Birmingham.

REVUES.

* ALL ABOARD.—May 23, Surrey Theatre, S.E.
ALL BLACK.—May 23, Palace, Salisbury.
BRAN PIE.—May 23, Palace, Manchester; 30, Palace, Manchester.
* BRIGHT AND BREEZY.—May 23, Empire, York.
BUCCANEERS, THE.—May 23, Hip., Wolverhampton.
* BUZZ ALONG.—May 23, T.R., Barnsley; 30, Globe, Consett.
CABARET NIGHTS.—May 23, T.R., Smethwick; 30, Crown, Eccles.
CHUCKLES.—May 23, Pavilion, Leicester.
DON'T WORRY.—May 23, Palace, Kilmarnock; 30, T.R., Coatbridge.
* DREAM GIRL.—May 23, Hip., Gloucester; 30, Hip., Nottingham.
EASTERN NINGHTS.—May 23, Elephant and Castle Theatre, S.E.
* FOLLIES OF 1921.—May 23, Hip., Sheffield.
FOOTLIGHT FROLICS.—May 23, Hip., Bury; 30, Palace, Newcastle.
FRENCH BEANS.—May 23, Emp., Nottingham.
GREAT SCOTT.—May 23, Hippo., Bolton.
HEADS OR TAILS?—May 23, Grand, Mansfield; 30, Hip., Chesterfield.
HELLO! BLACKPOOL.—May 30, Bordesley.
HELLO! CHARLIE.—May 23, Olympia, West Bromwich.
* HUSTLE.—May 23, King's, Longsight, Manchester; 30, Hip., Peterboro'.
JACK IN THE BOX.—May 23, Emp., Woolwich; 30, Grand, Clapham.
JINGLES.—May 23, Emp., Chatham.
JOLLITIES.—May 23, Hip., Southampton.
JOY BELLS.—May 23, King's, Southsea; 30, Nelson.
KEEP GUESSING.—May 23, Palace, Newcastle; 30, Lyric, Liverpool.
* KINEMA KID.—May 23, Aberdeen.
LADS OF THE VILLAGE.—May 23, O.H., Southport; 30, O.H., Dudley.
MORE SPLASHES.—May 23, Hip., Rugby.
MOVIE MAID.—May 23, Tiv., Hull; 30, Hip., Wrexham.
MR. TOWER OF LONDON.—May 23, Granville, Walham Green.
* MUMMING BIRDS.—May 23, New, Northampton; 30, Palace, Hammersmith.
NON-STOP.—May 23, Hip., Derby; 30, Hip., Golders Green
NOTHING DOING.—May 23, Olymp., Glasgow; 30, Hip., Aldershot.
OH! HARRY.—May 23, Grand, Pentre; 30, Pontypool.
OH, LAUGH!—May 23, Grand, Croydon; 30, Lowestoft.
PATCHES.—May 23, Empire, Cardiff.
* REFLECTION.—May 23, Emp., Glasgow.
SHORT AND SWEET.—May 23, Palace, Salford.
SPANGLES.—May 23, King's, Dundee.
SPLINTERS OF 1921.—May 23, Emp., Kilburn; 30, Hip., Boscombe.
STOP IT OFF.—May 23, Pal., Bordesley; 30, Alh., Stourbridge.
TICKLED TO DEATH.—May 23, Emp., Tonypandy; 30, Emp., Mountain Ash.
* TOO MANY GIRLS.—May 23, Grand, Clapham.
WHAT A LIFE!—May 23, T.R., Middlesbro'.
WHAT A NIGHT!—May 23, Emp., Burnley; 30, Queen's, Leeds.
WHAT NEXT?—May 23, Bootle; 30, King's, Manchester.
* WHIRLIGIG, THE.—May 23, Emp., Liverpool; 30, Empire, Leeds.
WOBBLE.—May 23, T.R., Aston, Birmingham.
* YES, PAPA.—May 23, Emp., Edinburgh.
* 1921 PASSING SHOW.—May 23, Hip., Newcastle; 30, Emp., Newcastle.

* **Members of the Association of Touring Managers.**

Miss F. W. Purcell, of the Purcell School of Dancing, will give her annual display this year at King's Hall, Covent Garden, on Wednesday, June 8. Tickets may be obtained from the Purcell School of Dancing, 28, Heddon-st., W. 1.

The executors of the late Mr. G. A. Prentice, who was a prominent member of the London Stock Exchange, and was some years ago a well-known figure on the turf, have instructed Messrs. Knight, Frank & Rutley to sell the choice selection of pictures, French furniture, wines, and a large quantity of Havana cigars. The sale will be held at the Hanover-square Rooms on Thursday and Friday, June 9 and 10.

"THE ERA" LETTER BOX.

A stamped addressed Envelope must be enclosed with application for each Letter. No circulars or parcels admitted to this List. No addition or omission can be made to this List after 12 noon Monday. Whilst exercising all necessary care, we do not hold ourselves responsible for any loss sustained in connection with "The Era" Letter Box.

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Ainley, Mr. Henry
Air, Mr. Charlie Bon
Allen, Mr. N. F.
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Anderton & Rowland
Ashton, Mr. Herbert
Astor, Mr. Eddie
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Barber, Mr. H. H.
Barker, Mr. Granville
Bartone, Mr. Victor
Bateman, Miss Alys
Bateman, Miss J.
Belling, Mr. Gilbert
Belmore, Mr. Harry
Bengamin, Miss Doris
Bevans, Miss Violet
Birchland, Mr. Jack
Bloom, Miss Vera
Bordessa, Mr. P.
Bostock, Mr. Chas.
Bramgar, Mr. Frank
Brett, Mr. Stanley
Brewster, Miss Kitty
Brown, Mr. A.
Burge, Mr. Arthur
Burge, Mr. Monkey
Burke, Miss Esme
Byron, Miss Maggie
Caldicott, Mr. T. H.
Calvert, Miss Nell
Cardiff, Mr. Max
Carlisle, Miss Alex
Carter, Mr. T. H.
Cave, Mrs. Alfred V.
Cavendish, Miss Jean
Charles, Miss Helen
Chisholme, Miss Madeline
Chopton, Mr. J.
Clark, Mr. Dane
Clarkson, Mr. Sydney
Cleveland, Mr. Stuart
Cody, Mr. C. R
Cody, Mr. F. W.
Cole, Mr. Lionel
Condor, Miss G.
Connor, Mr. Fred
Con oy, Miss Ida
Cooper, Mr. Thomas
Corri, Mr. Frank
Cowell, Mr. Clarence
Craven, Mr. F. A.
Crawford, Miss Alice
Cregan, Mr. J.
Croft, Miss Annie
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Ford, Miss Gene
Foskett, Mr.
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Fournel, Monsieur Eug.
Fox, Mr. Reginald
Fox, Mr. W. H
France, Mr. W.
Frewin, Mr. Harrison
Fryatt, Miss
Gastor, Mr. R. C.
George, Mr. A. E.
"Gerrard"
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Glenny, Mr. Charles
Good, Miss Ethel
Gordon, Miss Nina
Graham, Mr. Walter
Grantham, Miss Betty
Grayson, Mr. Arthur
Green, Mr. John
Gregory, Mr. George
Gurney, Mr. Edwin
Guy, Miss Nora
Haldane, Mr. Bert
Hallard, Mr. C. M.
Hamilton, Miss Rosie
Hare, Miss Winifred
Hargreaves, Mr. Wm.
Harker, Miss Daisy
Harman, Mr. Lindsay
Hartley, Mr. Jackson
Harven, William De
Harvey, Miss Marie
Harvey, Ldy Martin
Harvey, Mr. Rupert
Harvey, Miss T.
Hawe, Mr. Jimmy
Hawking, Miss Iris
Hay, Mr. Ian
Hayden, Mr. Percy.
Hayward, Miss Hetty
Hill, Miss Evelyn E.
Hillgist, Miss M.
Hinton, Mr. J. C.
Hoffe, Mr. Monckton
Hoffmann, Fraulein Eugenie
Hollis, Mr. Bert
Holloway, Mr. W. S.
Hope, Miss Alice
Hope, Miss Jess
Hopson, Miss Violet
Houp-La, Mr Richard
Hudson, Miss O.
Hugossett, Mr.
Hunter, Mr. R. G.
Huntley, Mr. W.
Hurley, Mr. W. L.
Hyde, Mr. Will
Iona, Mrs. A. F.
Irving, Miss Ethel
Irving, Mr. Frederick
Jerom, Chas.
Jerrold, Miss Mary
Jines, Miss M.
Judge, Mr. Jack
Keely, Mr. R. P.
Kennedy, Mrs.
Kingsley, C.
Kingston, Miss Gertrude
Kinsella, Mr. E. P.
Lacey, Mr. Will
Lamore, Mr. Harry
Langtry, Miss Lilie
Larkum, Mr.
Lase, Mr. George
Lashwood, Mr. G.
Laveen & Cross
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Lawson, Mrs. Enid
Lee, Miss Auriol
Leedman, Mr. F.
Le Dair, Miss Jean
Leigh, Mr. Bert
Leon, Mr. Henri
Lester, Mr. George
Len, Mr. Will
Leroy, Mr. E
Leroy, Mr. Paul
Levark, Miss Lean
Levey, Miss Ethel
Leyton, Mr. G.
Leywood, Mr. Bert
Linden, Mr. Max
Livesey, Mr. Carter
Loftus, Mr. Alex.
Lonsdale, Mr. A. P.
Logan, Mr. Stanley
Lovegrove, Miss
Luck Brothers, The
Lundy, Mr. H.
Macklin, Mr. Hughes
Magley, Miss Irene
Marefield, Mr. John
Marks, Mr. Stanley
Maxwell, Mr. Terence
May, Mr. Edw.
Maynard, Miss Dolly
Maynard, Mr. Percy
Mayne, Mr. N. Thorpe
McAudle, Mr. J. F.
McCrae, Miss Joan
McKeag, Mr. E. L.
McPhee, Professor
Meade, Capt. H. B.
Melbacks, The Musical
Millen, Miss Ruby
Mitchelson, Mr. Angus Hill
Monkman, Miss Phyllis
Montefiore, Mr. Eade
Montesole, Mr. Max
Monteyle, Mr. R.
Moore, Miss Decima
Moore, Miss Hilda
Morris, Miss William
Morris, Mr. Gerald
Morris & Waters, Edward, Messrs.
Moss, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur
Murray, Mr. Tom
Murphy, Mr. Jerome
Nash, Mr. George
Nestor, Mr. N.
Niblo, Mr. Fred
Nicholson, Mr. C. T.
Nolan, Mr. F.
Norman, V. Norman
Norris, Mr. C. E.
Norton, Mr. A. B.
Novello, Mr. Ivor
O'Connor, Miss Leonie
O'Cready, Mr. W.
O'Donovan, Mr. Fred
Oswald, Mr. Harry
Oyra, Mr. Jan.
Passmore, Mrs. Jim
Payne, Capt. P.
Peach, Miss M. A.
Pearce, Mr. Ashton
Percil, Mr. Harry
Peterman, Mr. J.
Polaski, Mr. S.
Potter, Miss Ada
Poulton, Mr. A. G.
Powell, Mr. Temple
Practice, Mr. Mark
Price, Mr. C. Basil Burleigh
Purchose, Mr. Andrew
Quinian, Mr. T.
Radford, Mr. Harry
Raie, Miss T.
Ray, Miss Belle
Ray, Miss Nellie
Ray, Mr. Dick
Ray, Mr. W.
Raymond, Mr. George
Raymond, Mr. Ray
Raymond, Mr. J. Courtenay
Rea, Mr. C. H. E.
Reeve, Mr. A
Richards, Mrs. Frank
Richardson, Mr. A. J.
Rimmer, Mrs.
Robertson, Mr. J. Forbes
Robinson, Mr. Snell
Rolls, Mrs. E.
Royce, Mr. Arthur
Russell, Miss Ami
Russell, Miss Bab
Sandro, Vio.
Scott, Mr. S Austin L.
Silbon, Mr. B.
Silward, Mr. E.
Singer, Mr. B.
Smith, Mr. Sebastian
Skardon, Mr. C. H.
Smith, Mr. A. C.
Soo Ling Chung, Mrs.
Somers, Mr. Dalton
Somerset, Mr. & Mrs.
Sommerset, Mr. C. D.
Squire, Mr. Tom
Stanley, Mr. Horace
Staples, Mr. E. Staham
Stern, Mr. Sam
Sterner, Mr.
St. Ives, Miss Ivy
Strong, Mr. Oswald
Stuckey, Mr. Dym. H.
Sutton, Pte. S. H.
Swain, Mr. Alfred
Sydney, Mr. T. E.
Taylor, Capt. Frank
Taylor, Mr. Granville
Taylor, Mr. R. R.
Tempest, Miss Marie
Temple, Miss Mollie
Thomas, Esq.
Thompson, Miss Norah
Thonil, Miss Ivy
Thorne, Mr. E.
Thornton, Miss Violet
Tindall, Dr.
Tonzeau, Miss Gipsy
Towell, Mr. Alf.
Tree, Miss Iris
Trehearne, Miss Kitty
Trillo. Mr. Albert F.
Turnbull, Lieut.
Ulfer, Mr. Richard
Vallarino, Miss Ida
Vandyke, Miss Doris
Vere, Miss Grace
Vermont, Miss Yvonne
Vincent, Mr. W. G.
Vista, Madam
Vuire and Colley
Wain, Mr. Eric
Walter, Mr. Wyn
Ward, Mrs. D. E.
Waring, Mr. Herbert
Warrington, Mr. W.
Washburn, Mr. Bryant
Watts, Mr. Alfred E
Wellesley, Mr. Alfred
West, Barbe Harry T., Mr.
White, Mr. Cyril H.
Whitcliff Ten Trio
White, Miss Lee
Whittaker, Mr. L. K.
Wigan, Mr. Montague
Wilby, Mr. F. L.
Wilding, Mr. Harry
Wilkshire, Mr. V.
Willett, Mr. Fred
William, Mr. H. G.
Williams, Mr. R. A.
Willis, Mr. Hubert
Wilson, Mr. Joseph
Wingrove, Mrs. I.
Winskill, E.
Winter, Miss Jessie
Wood, Miss Daisy
Wood, Mrs. Hickory
Woodington, Miss Beatrice
Woodville, Mr. E
Woolheim, Mr. Eric
Worth, Miss Constance
Wynne, Miss Kyrle
Yates, Miss Gretchen
Yelding, Mr. Ralph
Yorke, Mr. Percy
Yorke, Mr. Murray
Yule, Miss Rose

NEW PLAY PUBLICATIONS.

Of three one-act plays newly received from Messrs' Gowans and Gray, "The Philosopher of Butterbuggins," by Harold Chapin, is the most important. It has, in fact, been already successfully produced, with Miss Hilda Trevelyan in the cast. The plot revolves round a Scotch patriarch, who derives philosophy from his many years' experience, and uses it to obtain his own way, thus proving that he has not quite arrived at that stage of dotage that his household imagine. The Inner Hebrides is the scene of "Glenforsa," a drama by John Brandane and O. W. Yuill, which reiterates the old, old story that the course of true love never runs like a tinned-pork king's motor-car. The time of the play, however, is quite removed from motor-cars, taking us back to the middle of the picturesque 18th century, and the days of mountain chiefs. The plot is an emotional one.

Lastly, "Golliwog in Fairyland" is the first of a series of children's plays. It is by Maud Cockrel, an authoress of sixteen, and, though of the sort of fairy lore that the fancy of every imaginative schoolgirl weaves, there is just enough difference to make it quite publishable. A rather original dash of humour is provided in a scene of fairy revels being interrupted by the entrance of a "special" and two policemen. The little play is of a suitable type for home or school production.

BANK OF ENGLAND OPERATIC SOCIETY.

The Bank of England Operatic Society has every reason to congratulate themselves on the success of the four performances of the Gilbert and Sullivan operas, "The Pirates of Penzance" and "Trial by Jury," which they gave at the King's Hall, Covent Garden. Everybody worked with untiring energy; the production, thanks to that excellent régisseur, Mr. William Blake, was first-class, and bumper houses were the rule. It says a deal for the resources of the Club, too, that they were able to put up at a moment's notice, so excellent a substitute for Mr. C. W. Worger, whom illness prevented from taking the part of Frederick, billed as Mr. S. E. Boston, who played in a bright, manly fashion, and all things considered acquitted himself excellently. Mr. Gerald A. C. Sandberg obviously revelled in the part of Major-General Stanley; Mr. T. Courtis was a vigorous Pirate King; Mr. Harry Michell was a whimsical Sergeant of Police (a special word of praise for his admirable diction); and Mr. Gordon Backcomb's Samuel was a clever little character study. Miss Winifred Drake was a sweet-voiced Mabel, Miss Clare Wightwick scoring well as Ruth, and the generalissimo's three other daughters were brightly enacted by Miss Gladys Stretton, Miss Flora Thorpe, and Miss Margaret Karr. In "Trial by Jury" Mesdames Dora K. Matthews, Mabel Kaye, and Messrs. Arthur Ball, T. R. B. Corby, C. E. Deacon, W. H. Nevill, and Robert Betham all acquitted themselves well. Mr. G. J. Baumbach successfully piloted singers and orchestra through the intricacies of both scores.

THE ARCHITECTURAL ASSOCIATION.

This Society is holding at their Gallery in Bedford-square an interesting and instructive exhibition of models of stage settings, costume and poster designs, and kindred subjects, several of the former being the models upon which were based the actual sets of several recent theatrical productions. Among the most noticeable of these were Mr. C. Lovat Fraser's sets for the "Beggar's Opera," those of Mr. Gerald Forsyth for "The Shepherdess Without a Heart," Comelli's models for "Faust on Toast," a striking garden set by Mr. Eric Howard and G. Loverdet, and Levy Marc-Henri's striking set for the third act of "Maggie." Other objects of interest comprise the original design (by Mr. Augustin John, Percy B. Tubbs, and L. H. Bucknell) for the Chelsea Arts Club Ball, and costume and poster studies by Messrs. Hugo Rumbold, Gloye Sheringham, A. Rutherston, G. K. Benda, W. J. Palmer Jones, N. H. Musgrave, Cecil Smith, and A. G. W. Brokie (the latter three being students of the Association). Miss Margaret B. Calkin is to be commended for her "Rainbow Workshop" study. The exhibition, which opened on May 17, closes on the 27th inst.

"I'll swear upon that bottle."
—*Tempest, Act ii, Scene ii.*

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"Drink and fear not."
—*Henry VI., Act ii, Scene iii.*

ORTHOPÆDIC HOSPITAL MATINÉE.

Prince Henry, the President of the Royal Orthopædic Hospital, which is appealing for £200,000, essential to the maintenance of its splendid work for crippled children, has promised to attend the matinée to be given in aid at the Winter Garden Theatre, on Monday next.

Ordinary prices are being charged. Donations and applications for tickets will be welcomed by the Organising Matinée Secretary, Mr. Carl Hentschel, 21, Hart-street, W.C.

An interesting feature of a remarkable programme will be a new one-act play, specially written for the occasion by Miss Gertrude Jennings, in which Miss Marie Lohr and Miss Sydney Fairbrother will take part. There will also be a duologue by Miss Lilian Braithwaite and Mr. C. V. France, and a new sketch by Monica Ewer, with Miss Margaret Halstan in the cast. In addition, Misses Margaret Bannerman, Maisie Gay, Nancie Lovat, Renee Mayer, Phyllis Monkman, and Lily St. John, Messrs. Jack Buchanan, Thornley Dodge, Leslie Henson, and George Grossmith will appear.

FAMOUS NOVELIST AND THE A.L.S.

When the Arts League of Service Dramatic Company played in the Corn Exchange, Dorchester, there was no keener enthusiast in their crowded and appreciative audience than Mr. Thomas Hardy. The distinguished novelist, who is now rarely seen in public, attended the second performance, and was greatly interested in the folk songs, as well as in the plays, "The Dumb and the Blind" and "Square Pegs." The company is to give open-air shows in Hyde Park on June 11.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

Happy Returns to:—

George Miller—Wednesday, May 25.
Mabel Lait—Wednesday, May 25.
Edward Cranston—Wednesday, May 25.
J. V. Bryant—Thursday, May 26.
Edith Cole—Friday, May 27.
J. W. Cragg—Friday, May 27.
Bruce Green—Friday, May 27.
Maude Murray—Friday, May 27.
Shirley Kellogg—Friday, May 27.
Arnold Bennett—Friday, May 27.
Lottie Venne—Saturday, May 28.
H. T. Brickwell—Saturday, May 28.
Kittie Rayburn—Sunday, May 29.
Will Evans—Sunday, May 29.
Ernest E. Norris—Monday, May 30.
Courtice Pounds—Monday, May 30.
Maurice Raymond—Monday, May 30.
Maie Ash—Tuesday, May 31.
Fred Barnes—Tuesday, May 31.

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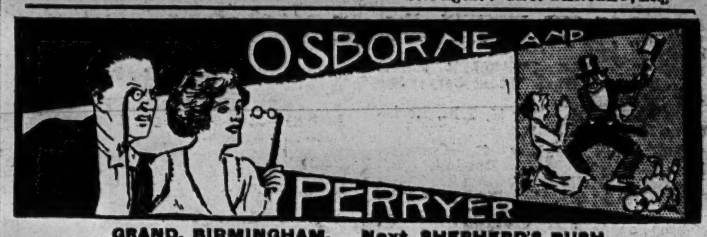

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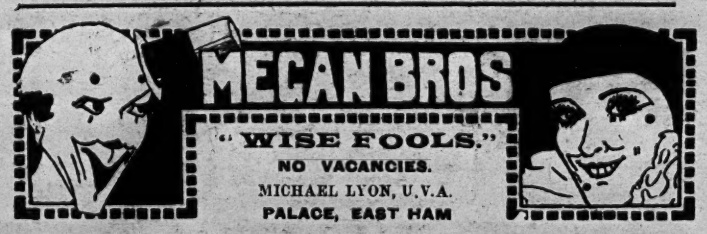

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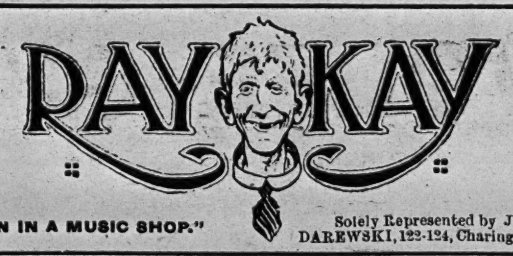

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Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—
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STOLL PICTURE THEATRE, KINGSWAY. (London Opera House.)

Pictures and Varieties.

THE HACKNEY EMPIRE.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Alice Lilley, Four Madcaps, Tom Clare, The Flemings, The McKays, Claude Lester, Christopher and Columbus, Bioscope.

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMP.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Harry Moore, The Five Nuts, Osborne and Perryer, Hilda Nelson Trio, Dennis Ray, Holden's Mannikins, Marriott Edgar, Bioscope.

THE CHISWICK EMPIRE.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Dan Leno, Junr., Nellie Maguire, Syd Howard, Great Wieland, Fortunello and Cirillino, Stanley Brett and Co., Bioscope.

WOOD GREEN EMPIRE.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Clifford Grey, Mlle. Cameo, Sammy Shields, Herbert La Martine, Wyn and Ivy, Lucan and McShane, Roxy La Rocca, Bioscope.

BRISTOL HIPPODROME.

Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
Zenora, Terry Wilson, Alfredo, O'Gorman Bros., Hiawatha and Minnehaha, Bioscope.

CHATHAM EMPIRE.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Ivy Barnes, Sandy Powell, Hartley Wonders, Fyne and Hurley, Gordon Finlay, Miles-Stavordale Quintette, Mullaney Bros., Bioscope.

BEDMINSTER HIPPO.

Pictures and Varieties.

THE LEICESTER PALACE.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Bert Lee, Paula Destiny, Stan Kavanagh & Co., The Paris Trio, Bruce Green, Woodward and Page, Bioscope.

THE ARDWICK EMPIRE.

Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
Manuel Vega, Ten Loonies, C. W. Woltard, Finlay Dunn, Gresham Singers, Syd Moorhouse, Bioscope.

MANCHESTER HIPPO.

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—
"The Buccaneers."
(Matinées Monday and Tuesday.)

PICTUREHOUSE, CHATHAM
FLORAL HALL, LEICESTER

And in association with the above—

THE ALHAMBRA, LONDON, W.C.

Bioscope—"A Yankee at the Court of King Arthur."

NOTE.—Artistes engaged at any of the above theatres should send photos for display in front of the house to Manager, to be returned at the end of the week.

NOTE.—All Sketches played at the above theatres must be licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, and a copy of the licence, together with script as licensed, must be sent to the Stoll Offices at least 21 days before date of performance.

14 BAND PARTS REQUIRED for all Theatres except The London Coliseum which requires at least 20, including 4 first Violin Parts, 2 second Violin Parts, separate 'Cello and Bass Parts, full Wood, Wind and Brass, Conductor. (Harp and Organ if required).

STAGE DEPARTMENT.—Songs proposed to be sung should be submitted, and special stage requirements stated, in letters marked "Stage Department," by Artistes three weeks before opening.

ADVERTISING MATTER.—Bills, Blocks, Photographs, and specimens of Pictorials really representing the Act, should be forwarded three weeks before opening If return of photographs required, please say so.

COARSENESS, VULGARITY, &c., is not allowed. The Licensing Authorities forbid this and the majority of the public resent it. This intimation is only rendered necessary by a very few Artistes.

ARTISTES' SCENERY AND PROPERTIES must be fireproofed or they cannot be brought into the Theatre. This is by order of the Licensing Authorities.

BUSINESS NOTICE OF GENERAL APPLICATION.—No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the above Theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form issued from the Offices, London, and signed by either Sir Oswald Stoll or the Secretary, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases where goods are required at once suppliers must look to the individual placing the orders, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within 48 hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the Head Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment." The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

THE LONDON SYNDICATE HALLS.

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Calls for Monday, May 30, 1921.

LONDON PAVILION.

C. B. Cochran's Production,
"London, Paris and New York."

OXFORD.

Rehearsal at 12.
C. B. Cochran's Production,
"League of Notions."

METROPOLITAN.

Rehearsal at 12.15.
Val. Walker. Frank Bradley and Alice Hamilton & Co. in "Unearthly." Russell and Durbin. Martin and Castle. Brenne and Erard. Charlie Rich. Dan Booker. Millie Jillson. Bioscope.

CHELSEA PALACE.

Rehearsal at 12.
Fred Karno in sketch, "Will You Kiss Me?" Dalmere's Circus. Theo Ward. Jessie Allan. Larkum Bros. Bioscope.

WATFORD PALACE.

Rehearsal at 1.
Hugh Bernard presents
"The Dawn of Happiness."

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.

Rehearsal at 1.
C. A. Stephenson and A. M. Norris to present "Carminetta." Bioscope.

EUSTON.

Rehearsal at 12.
Okito. Tatten Hall and Co. The Four Julians. The Three Scamps. Sisters St. Vincent. Jan de Marbell. Harry Emeric. May Starr. Bioscope.

SOUTH LONDON.

Rehearsal at 12.
Stanley Kirkby and Harry Hudson. Lala and Newton. Billy and Doris Harley. Alpho. Eddy Bayes. David Stewart.

EAST HAM.

Rehearsal at 12.
Tom Waters and Eddie Morris. The Six Heraldas. Florrie Forde. The Fayre Four. Le Dair. Barrie Seddon and Lady. De Lilo Sisters. Charles Mildare. 'Agnes York. Bioscope.

TOTTENHAM.

Rehearsal at 12.
Gilday and Fox. The Caron Troupe. Lind. Lole and "Her." The Four Clovelly Girls. Agnes Croxton. Lyons and Fay. Frank and Elsie. Bioscope.

EMPRESS, BRIXTON.

Rehearsal at 12.
Dan Rolyat. Billy Wells and Eclair Twins. Alex Mee and Co. Florrie Forde. Key and Keyworth. Dick Henderson. Gwen Thomas. S. Sidelo. Bioscope.

These Calls are communicated by the Management for the information of Artists without prejudice.

Bill matter to be sent direct to the Manager of each hall three weeks prior to the date of opening.

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